

The Impact of Information Sharing on Social Media on Adolescents' Behavior in China

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Abstract

Unlike the previous studies investigating the impact of information sharing on social media on adolescents' behavior in China. However, this study examines the mediation mechanism of information sharing on social media to adolescents' behavior in China. The survey method is used to collect the data from adolescents in high school situated in the Northwest area of China. The sample is collected using convenient sampling techniques. The final sample is 550 adolescents. The findings show that all the proposed hypotheses are supported and significant. Information sharing on social media is the strongest predictor of adolescents' behavior in China. Both mediators are also supported and significant toward the adolescents' behavior. This study employs a major theoretical contribution because it investigates the mechanism of information sharing on social media to adolescents' behavior.

Keywords

Information Sharing on Social Media, Adolescents' Behavior, Social Capital, China, SEM.

1. Introduction

Social media is widely acknowledged as a collection of digital platforms that enable individuals to engage in social interactions and share information in the form of content (Ahmed *et al.*, 2019). Information sharing on social media (ISSM) can either discourage or encourage the behavior of adolescents (Dharmastuti *et al.*, 2020), contingent upon the characteristics of the content and the manner in which it is employed. Social media effectively addresses numerous obstacles associated with conventional forms of interaction, such as face-to-face interactions, in the domains of communication, relationships, experience sharing, visibility, self-education, and real-time connection. In addition, social media offers numerous advantages, such as accelerated sharing of data, connectivity at all times and in all locations, enhancement of social connections, and the capacity to discover and investigate novel concepts that empower business expansion. Presently, 45% of the global population utilizes social media (SM) (Hanc, 2021). Despite privacy, cybercrime, and false news concerns, among others, the global community continues to adopt it. The rate of global digital expansion is accelerating, as one million individuals gain access to the internet daily. This expansion is undoubtedly driving the utilization of SM. In recent times, the increasing number of various social media platforms has led to the rise of ordinary individuals attaining fame and exerting a significant impact on society (Wróblewski; Grzesiak, 2020), particularly among adolescents and their families. Examining the impact of social media information sharing, including social capital, on the social behavior of adolescents constitutes the research problem. Regarding the influence of ISSM on the social behavior of adolescents, no prior research has been conducted in China; this is the first study in the region to provide empirical evidence in this regard (Zoé, 2023). Moreover, this study centres on the social dimensions of adolescent behavior, whereas previous scholarly works have concentrated on singular facets such as psychological well-being, sleep quality, engagement with hazardous food and beverage brands, learning, and political behavior. In addition to filling a void in the literature, this research assists families, institutions, and scholars who are interested in learning



more about the social behavior of adolescents. Determining the effect of social media on the social development of adolescents among school pupils in Northwest China is the purpose of this research. Information sharing on social media platforms has a significant impact on the behavior of adolescents, as it is influenced by the videos, reels, posts, tweets, and messages shared. These individuals, commonly referred to as "Generation Z" or "Internet natives," were born in China between 1995 and 2009, a time when the Internet was experiencing its greatest surge in popularity. Additionally, the proliferation of smartphones and devices and the evolution of the Internet had an impact on them, given that their growth history paralleled these developments. They are acclimated to immediately accessing and perusing online websites, as well as utilizing electronic devices and social media for information sharing. Although they value autonomy and uniqueness, they are equally eager to establish an online social presence in order to communicate with the outside world and develop a sense of self. It is projected that this demographic will comprise 18.4% of the overall Chinese population in 2020, or an estimated 260 million individuals (Xie; Madni, 2023). The effect of ISSM extends beyond the sociocultural behavior of young people and also influences several other domains such as politics, religion, entertainment, academics, and health (Al-Ansi *et al.*, 2023). Numerous studies have investigated the variables that might impact an adolescent's disclosure of information on social media. Thus, the objective of this study is to investigate the influence of information sharing on social media on adolescents' behavior using the dual mediation of social capital.

This study contributes in three folds. Firstly, this study introduces the mechanism by which information sharing on social media influences adolescents' behavior. Second, this study examines the social behavior of adolescents in China. Third, this study targeted Generation Z students who have aged from 11 to 19 years. Lastly, this study chose the developed country to address the problem. This study used the primary method to achieve the research objective by targeting the adolescents of China. Convenient sampling techniques were used to collect the data. The structural equation modelling was applied using the SmartPLS to determine the results. The findings show that information sharing on social media is the strongest predictor of adolescents' social behavior in China. The online social capital and offline social capital are also significant toward adolescents' social behavior in China. The implications of this study apply to government, telecommunication authorities and parents. The government and telecommunication authorities take proper actions to control and monitor the social media activities of young people. The parents can monitor the activities of their children and identify their interests. The further study is divided into the following sections. The next section discusses the literature and hypotheses development followed by methodology. Further data analysis and results are discussed followed by a discussion section.

2. Literature Review and Hypotheses Development

This research presents two processes by which information sharing on social media impact on adolescents' behavior: online and offline social capital. This study proposes these social capital (SC) is the direct outcome of information sharing on social media and that this social capital further affects the behavior of adolescents. We further posit that all types of information sharing induce online and offline social capital.

Valkenburg *et al.* (2022) Divided patterns of social media usage into active and passive categories. The first concept pertains to the act of accessing user-generated content to gain insight into the lives and emotions of others (Zhuang *et al.*, 2023). The second concept concerns the proactive engagement of users in direct, public, or private interactions with online acquaintances through activities such as blogging, chatting, sharing photos, videos, or blogs, or updating social media post updates (Wang, 2021). The outcomes are dissimilar for the two distinct utilization behaviors. Positive self-evaluation, resentment, and upward social comparison will result from passive social media use, which is caused by the absence of direct interpersonal communication (Wang *et al.*, 2020). Conversely, passive utilization of social media platforms hinders the development of robust interpersonal connections (Verduyn *et al.*, 2022) and instead fosters negative psychological states such as melancholy, anxiety, and isolation, which ultimately diminish one's adaptability and satisfaction (Kothambikar, 2023). Conversely, maintaining friendships requires active participation on social media, which may also induce positive psychological behavior and social behavior (Bui *et al.*, 2022), thereby mitigating feelings of isolation and depressed. Thus, it is consider that information sharing on social media will influence the social behavior. The individual using the social media and sharing their information related to personal, game and fun, academic, general news and health have strong social behavior as compare to other (Bashir *et al.*, 2021). It is widely accepted among researchers that robust interpersonal relationships serve as reliable indicators of overall well-being. Precisely, the mental health continuum model comprises psychological, social, and emotional well-being as its three primary components (Iasiello *et al.*, 2022). Psychological well-being encompasses all facets of an individual's psychological operation (Fischer *et al.*, 2021), which includes the presence of positive interpersonal connections (Hennicks *et al.*, 2022). Social well-being encompasses various aspects such as social acceptability, social integration, and social acceptance (Al-Emran, 2023), and pertains to the efficiency with which individuals navigate the social sphere. The importance of positive interpersonal relationships in adolescent social behavior is emphasized, as social behavior of social media use. Social media platforms are critical for fostering and maintaining interpersonal relationships and interpersonal interaction among young people. Social media platforms offer both technical and environmental assistance in fostering the development of social behavior (Becker *et al.*, 2023). In addition to facilitating the formation and maintenance of interpersonal connections, the exchange of information on social media platforms alleviates negative emotions like isolation and melancholy. Social media use is also indicative of the self-disclosure tendencies that are typical of social media users. Therefore, engaging in social media usage significantly contributes

to the enhancement of adolescents' well-being. Consequently, the objective of this research is to examine the impact of social media information sharing on adolescents' social behavior. Thus, the first hypothesis is as follows:

H1: Information sharing on social media has a significant influence on the social behavior of adolescents in China.

Social capital was derived from conventional notions of material and human capital (**Gannon; Roberts, 2020**). Social capital refers to the presence of a valuable and accessible advantage or resource that is inherent in and can be used from existing social networks (**Wulandhari et al., 2022**). In this research, social capital is defined as the resources that teenagers acquire via both online and offline interpersonal connections (**Maghsoudi et al., 2020**). Social media platforms serve as a primary means for obtaining, preserving, and enhancing social capital (**Berraies et al., 2020**). In other words, individuals may gain and amass social capital via their utilization of social media. Social capital is derived not just from social networking, but also serves as a significant asset for efficiently enhancing social well-being (**Pang, 2022**). It is a crucial determinant of individual, expendable assets and may serve as a mediator between information sharing on social media and adolescents' behavior. Social capital serves as a safeguard for adolescent social behavior by mitigating the adverse consequences of stressful life experiences (**Delaruelle et al., 2021**). It does this by enhancing the availability of positive emotional support and reinforcing self-esteem and other beneficial social resources (**Steinfeld et al., 2008**). Additionally, it has a beneficial impact on personal well-being and overall satisfaction with life. According on the information provided, we put up the following proposition:

H2: The social behavior of adolescents is positively influenced by both online and offline social capital in China.

Social capital theory posits that adolescents' social adaptation can be significantly enhanced through the use of social capital (**Addae, 2020**). This protective factor is considered crucial for the overall development and assimilation of adolescents. Engaging in active information sharing on social media platforms can strengthen pre-existing social connections (**Addae, 2020**), leading to positive social outcomes for individuals (**Stol et al., 2024**), such as increased social support and the acquisition of social capital. It was noted that social capital (SC) should be conferred in terms of online and offline characteristics in the current technological era. Online social capital (OLSC), which refers to the particular instance of social capital within a network environment, is a valuable resource that individuals can amass via interpersonal exchanges (**Hornig; Wu, 2020**) and the sharing of information on social media platforms. Specifically, in comparison to conventional offline social capital, acquiring online social capital offers greater convenience (**Huang et al., 2022**). As information technology has progressed, social media platforms have become increasingly ingrained in the daily lives of adolescents (**Davis et al., 2020**). While there has been some scholarly interest in the impact of online and offline social capital, the majority of research has focused solely on its effects on individual mental health and does not employ a standardized framework for both online and offline social capital. This could result in the reciprocal complication or amplification of the impact that each individual is subject to.

Scholarly investigations indicate that the impact of social media information sharing on individuals tends to transition from virtual to physical environments (**Khan et al., 2021**). Furthermore, according to the "the rich get richer" model, those who are more developed in social networking behavior and have undergone greater levels of socialization are able to improve their social capital, and expand their social networks (**Ellison et al., 2006**). strengthen their interpersonal relationships (**Steijn; Schouten, 2013**), and acquire additional social support through the dissemination of information on social media. On the other hand, according to the "social compensation hypothesis" model, social media is most advantageous for introverted people and those who lack social support (**Pouwels et al., 2022**). This is because social media facilitates the discovery of new communication opportunities, the formation of interpersonal connections, and the acquisition of social support. Practical factors can exert an influence on individual social behavior via online interactions (**Busalim; Ghabban, 2021**). For instance, adolescents have the ability to merge their offline and online friendships by exchanging information on social media platforms. Additionally, they can expand their offline social network by participating in a greater variety of online social networks. In conclusion, youthful individuals will probably acquire social capital online via the interpersonal connections they forge via digital engagements. The outcomes of online interpersonal exchanges can subsequently be converted into valuable social capital through their supplementary contribution to the growth of genuine relationships, thereby enhancing social conduct and overall welfare.

H3: The sharing of information on social media platforms has a significant impact on the offline and online social capital of adolescents.

The development of social capital is influenced not only by our interpersonal connections but also by our self-perception and perception of the world (**Kramer, 2006**). It had been established that adolescents who used social media excessively were more solitary, despondent, and lacked social skills (**Sampasa-Kanyinga; Lewis, 2015**), all of which were negative characteristics. Generally detrimental to the personal, psychosocial, and social well-being of adolescents is the excessive utilization of social media. A rise in social capital and the utilization of social media platforms for information sharing seem to account for this relationship. **Twenge et al. (2019)** Found that the utilization of social media platforms by adolescents has a limited impact on in-person interactions with their friends and also appears to erode the connections that bound them to their immediate family and friends, which ultimately affects their behavior. According to the study's findings by **Raffaelli and Duckett (1989)**, adolescents spend less time engaging in in-person conversations with their

family and acquaintances as a result of their increased use of social media. (Vannucci *et al.*, 2020) posits that social media platforms possess the capacity to augment the social behavior of adolescents, facilitate the acquisition of knowledge, foster improved relationships, assist in the employment search, and enable adolescents to maintain global connections in the form of social capital. Hence, the hypothesis is as follows:

H4: Information sharing on social media has a significant influence on the social behavior of adolescents through online social capital

H5: Information sharing on social media has a significant influence on the social behavior of adolescents through offline social capital.

3. Sample Selection and Data Collection

In this research, a total of 550 high school students from China were selected as samples using the convenient sampling technique. The respondent selection process included choosing volunteers from two high schools situated in the Northwest area of China. The survey was conducted in the classrooms by conducting awareness. The participants were informed properly and formally about the voluntary nature of the study and their right to withdraw from it at any time. Every participant filled out the paper questionnaire in their classroom. The individuals were notified that the collection of data would be exclusively used for research purposes and that any data shared would be maintained in an anonymous and confidential. Before contributing to the exercise, all participants verbally provided their informed agreement. The participants were distributed as follows: Out of the total population, 57% were male and 43% were female. Additionally, 59.3% of the population came from urban regions, while 40.2% came from rural areas. The participants' ages varied from 15 to 19 years, with a mean of 12.59 years and a standard deviation of 0.725 years.

3.1. Measurements

The research used a cross-sectional survey design, in which a structured questionnaire was created by examining pertinent literature. To tackle the research objective of the study, using a questionnaire is the most effective way. The survey was segmented into four sections. The first section includes demographic variables such as age, gender, and duration of social media use. The second section inquires about the degree to which information sharing is used on social media. This section categorizes the sort of information that adolescents post on social media using a five-point scale, ranging from 1 (least frequent) to 7 (most frequent). This section presents inquiries on eight categories of information sharing on social media. The sample items include personal information, such as a photograph, place of origin, and educational background, as well as academic information, like your grade, academic accomplishments, and assignments. The information sharing on social media adheres to the scale established by Bashir *et al.* (2021), with slight modifications in language and some elements obtained from expert interviews. The expert recommended replacing religious information with belief information in the sample of changes. The third segment focused on the concept of social capital, which encompasses two dimensions: online and offline social capital. This work is based on the research conducted by Liu *et al.* (2020). This research assessed the social behavior of adolescents. The given statement is "I enjoy comparing myself to others and imitating their actions." The behavior of the adolescent is assessed by the research conducted by Al-Ansi *et al.* (2023).

3.2. Analytical Strategy

This section explains the strategy to run the analysis. This research used a step approach to investigate the proposed hypotheses. In the first part data analysis part is discussed and in the second step direct structural path are discussed followed by specific indirect paths.

3.3. Data Analysis

The data analysis discussion that precedes the results verifies that the data is prepared for additional analysis. The data analysis describes the three-step analysis process. It verifies the descriptive statistics, correlation matrix, and multicollinearity in the initial step. In the second phase, the outer loadings and cross-loadings of the constructs are evaluated. The third stage involves the assessment of reliability and validity.

The descriptive statistics discuss the mean, standard deviation, skewness, and kurtosis. Table 1 shows that data are initially effective for further analysis. The information sharing on social media average is 5.535. The standard deviation is 1.094 that are quite variable. The data is left side skewed because of the little negative value that is -1.1651. The kurtosis value of information sharing on social media indicates a somewhat sharp peak according to normal distribution. The online social capital mean score is 5.412 with a standard deviation of 0.888 showing low variability in the construct. The skewness value of online social capital is -1.13 which represents a left-skewed and somewhat sharp peak by a kurtosis value of 1.388. The offline social capital average score is 4.474 along with a standard deviation of 1.329 which represents the slightly high variability. The offline social capital is left-skewed and flat peak. The adolescents' behavior mean score is 5.299 with a standard deviation of 1.066 showing moderate variation. The adolescents' behavior is left-skewed and flat peak according to normal distribution. All the constructs achieve the normal distribution.

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics.

	Mean	Std. Deviation	Skewness		Kurtosis	
	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	S.E	Statistic	S.E
Information sharing on Social media	5.535	1.094	-1.651	0.154	3.134	0.307
Online Social Capital	5.412	0.888	-1.131	0.154	1.388	0.307
Offline Social Capital	4.474	1.329	-0.624	0.154	-0.576	0.307
Adolescent' behavior	5.299	1.066	-0.760	0.154	0.707	0.307

3.4. Correlation Matrix

Table 2 describes the correlation matrix of each construct. Online social capital has the strongest correlation (69.6%) to information sharing on social media at 0.01 level of significance. Information sharing on social media has correlated (43.4%) with adolescents' behavior and significant 0.01. Online social capital correlated 40.2% with adolescent behavior. The offline social capital correlated about 31.1% with adolescent behavior.

Table 2: Correlation Matrix.

	1	2	3	4
1	1			
2	.696**	1		
3	.343**	.389**	1	
4	.434**	.402**	.311**	1

** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

1. Information sharing on Social media. 2. Online Social Capital. 3. Offline Social Capital. 4. Adolescents' Behavior

3.5. Outer loadings, Reliability and Convergent Validity

The outer loadings of the items show that item are loading at their respective construct. The minimum threshold is 0.6 (Kamis *et al.*, 2020). In this study, all the items are loaded at their respective factor and achieved the threshold criteria. Table 3 shows that the minimum item loadings are 0.634 and the maximum is 0.8712q. Thus, it lies under the threshold criteria. Furthermore, to confirm the reliability the composite reliability is used that confirm the internal consistency of the constructs. The minimum threshold criteria are 0.7 (Yusoff *et al.*, 2020). In this study, it's achieved. Moreover, the convergent validity is assured prior to analysis. It's measured by the AE value that should be greater than 0.5 (Khiredine *et al.*, 2021). In this study, it is achieved.

Table 3: Outer Loading, Reliability And Validity.

Constructs	Items	Items Loadings	CR	AVE
Information sharing on Social media	ISSM1	0.770	0.945	0.682
	ISSM2	0.844		
	ISSM3	0.843		
	ISSM4	0.811		
	ISSM5	0.853		
	ISSM6	0.866		
	ISSM7	0.809		
	ISSM8	0.809		
Offline Social Capital	OFLSC1	0.871	0.946	0.636
	OFLSC10	0.765		
	OFLSC2	0.835		
	OFLSC3	0.868		
	OFLSC4	0.833		
	OFLSC5	0.753		
	OFLSC6	0.744		
	OFLSC7	0.718		
	OFLSC8	0.731		
Online Social Capital	OLSC1	0.688	0.910	0.503
	OLSC2	0.690		
	OLSC3	0.695		
	OLSC4	0.690		
	OLSC5	0.792		
	OLSC6	0.737		
	OLSC7	0.638		
	OLSC8	0.634		
	OLSC9	0.742		
	OLSC10	0.766		
Adolescent' Behavior	ASB1	0.815	0.929	0.684
	ASB2	0.853		
	ASB3	0.841		
	ASB4	0.831		
	ASB5	0.824		
	ASB6	0.799		

Table 4 shows the cross-loadings of the constructs that show that all the constructs load at the particular factors in comparison to other factors.

Table 4: Cross Loadings.

	Adolescents' Behavior	Information Sharing on Social Media	Offline Social Capital	Online Social Capital
ASB1	0.815	0.395	0.218	0.417
ASB2	0.853	0.483	0.274	0.405
ASB3	0.841	0.387	0.279	0.369
ASB4	0.831	0.293	0.304	0.322
ASB5	0.824	0.290	0.252	0.298
ASB6	0.799	0.310	0.265	0.324
ISSM1	0.367	0.770	0.247	0.590
ISSM2	0.390	0.844	0.308	0.575
ISSM3	0.387	0.843	0.334	0.632
ISSM4	0.370	0.811	0.244	0.596
ISSM5	0.339	0.853	0.314	0.606
ISSM6	0.383	0.866	0.290	0.649
ISSM7	0.341	0.809	0.288	0.641
ISSM8	0.359	0.809	0.281	0.624
OFLSC1	0.347	0.355	0.871	0.360
OFLSC10	0.160	0.316	0.765	0.397
OFLSC2	0.317	0.306	0.835	0.292
OFLSC3	0.266	0.259	0.868	0.326
OFLSC4	0.283	0.264	0.833	0.363
OFLSC5	0.176	0.199	0.753	0.259
OFLSC6	0.187	0.240	0.744	0.340
OFLSC7	0.248	0.263	0.718	0.193
OFLSC8	0.262	0.270	0.731	0.249
OFLSC9	0.231	0.273	0.839	0.365
OLSC1	0.222	0.404	0.297	0.688
OLSC10	0.448	0.725	0.309	0.766
OLSC2	0.266	0.427	0.203	0.690
OLSC3	0.171	0.371	0.209	0.695
OLSC4	0.233	0.382	0.305	0.690
OLSC5	0.309	0.480	0.318	0.792
OLSC6	0.195	0.418	0.293	0.737
OLSC7	0.286	0.438	0.284	0.638
OLSC8	0.310	0.485	0.240	0.634
OLSC9	0.431	0.789	0.308	0.742

3.6. Discriminant Validity

The discriminant validity is achieved if the diagonal value of the square root of the AVE is greater than all the constructs' correlation matrix (Hair Jr et al., 2021). In this study, the table 5 shows that it is achieved.

Table 5: Discriminant Validity.

	Adolescents' Behavior	Information Sharing on Social Media	Offline Social Capital	Online Social Capital
Adolescents' Behavior	0.827			
Information Sharing on Social Media	0.444	0.826		
Offline Social Capital	0.320	0.350	0.798	
Online Social Capital	0.436	0.744	0.394	0.709

3.7. Multicollinearity

In the cross-sectional study, it is important to address the multicollinearity issue. This is very common in the regression findings. The VIF and tolerance values are used to detect the presence of multicollinearity. Table 6 shows that there is no multicollinearity issue because it achieves the thresholds that VIF should be less than 10 and tolerance value should be greater than 0.25 (Ovharhe, 2022). All the constructs achieved the criteria.

Table 6: Multicollinearity.

Variables	VIF Value	Tolerance Value
Information Sharing on Social Media	2.258	0.443
Offline Social Capital	1.194	0.837
Online Social Capital	2.347	0.426

Table 07 explains that the model is fit for further analysis. The model fit is confirmed if the SRMR value is less than 0.1 and the NFI value is close to 1, the above 0.7 NFI is acceptable. Both d_ULS and d_G offer values that are not significant, indicating a good model fit (Singh; Ahuja, 2020).

Table 7: Model Fit.

	Saturated Model	Estimated Model
SUMMER	0.077	0.083
d_ ULS	3.502	4.050
d_ G	1.415	1.423
Chi-Square	1,814.877	1,821.599
NFI	0.736	0.735

3.8. Structural Paths

This research investigates the effect of information sharing on social media on adolescent behavior using dual mediation. To test the proposed model the structural equation modeling is applied using the SmartPLS 3. The structural paths use a step approach to test the proposed hypotheses. In the first step, the direct hypotheses are tested. In the second step, the specific indirect effect results are presented. Table 8 presents the direct results. The result shows that information sharing on social media influences 75.1% of online social capital which is significant at the level of 99%. The second strongest influence of information sharing on social media on offline social capital is 35.7% and significant at the level of 99%. Information sharing on social media influences ($\beta=0.259$, $t=2.709$) adolescent behavior in China. The online and offline social capital have significant influence ($\beta=0.183$, $t=2.054$; $\beta=0.161$, $t=2.672$) on adolescents' behavior respectively. Overall, all the direct hypotheses are supported and significant. The figure gives a clear picture of each direct effect on the predictor to the outcome variable.

Table 8: Direct Hypotheses' Result.

Hypotheses	Coefficient	Standard Deviation	T Statistics	P Values
Information Sharing on Social Media -> Adolescents' Behavior	0.259	0.092	2.709	0.007
Information Sharing on Social Media -> Offline Social Capital	0.357	0.06	5.829	0
Information Sharing on Social Media -> Online Social Capital	0.751	0.034	21.679	0
Offline Social Capital -> Adolescents' Behavior	0.161	0.059	2.672	0.008
Online Social Capital -> Adolescents' Behavior	0.183	0.092	2.054	0.041

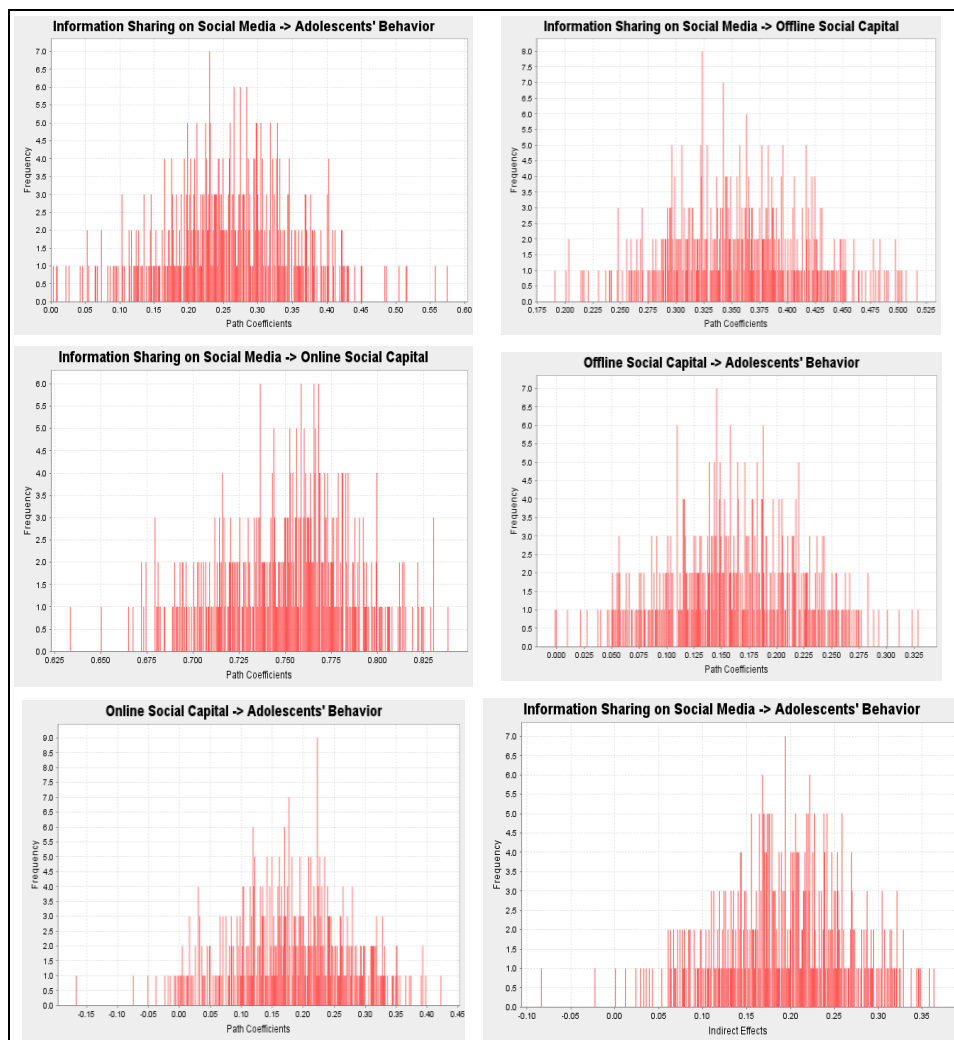


Figure 1: Direct Effect on the Predictor to the Outcome Variable.

3.9. Specific Indirect Effect

Table 9 presents the specific indirect effect of the proposed model. In this study, there are two specific indirect hypotheses. These both hypotheses are supported and significant. The path through the online social capital is highly influenced the adolescents' behavior. The second path through the offline social capital is significant and supported. However, the mediation is partial because the direct effect of the predictor on the outcome variable is significant.

Table 9: Specific Indirect Effect.

	Sample Mean (M)	Standard Deviation	T Statistics	P Values
Information Sharing on Social Media -> Offline Social Capital -> Adolescents' Behavior	0.057	0.023	2.431	0.015
Information Sharing on Social Media -> Online Social Capital -> Adolescents' Behavior	0.136	0.067	2.086	0.038

The overall R2 on adolescents' behavior is 24.3% which represents all predictors of overall change the 24.3% of adolescents' behavior and the R2 for offline social capital is 12.2% which represents change due to information sharing on social media. The R2 is 55.3% on online social capital which shows that information sharing on social media is the strongest predictor for online social capital. Table XX shows the R2 of the model.

Table 10: R Square.

	R Square	R Square Adjusted
Adolescents' Behavior	0.243	0.234
Offline Social Capital	0.122	0.119
Online Social Capital	0.553	0.552

4. Discussion

The social behavior of adolescents is an essential element of their overall well-being (Demirci, 2020). Adolescents that exhibit elevated levels of social behavior often display an abundance of excitement, energy, pleasant emotions, and positive psychological and social behavior (Güroğlu, 2021). Therefore, it is crucial to study the elements that contribute to the social behavior of teenagers. Prior studies suggested that the use of certain material on social media might affect individual behavior and cognition (Smith et al., 2020a; 2020b). Furthermore, greater emphasis has been placed on the adverse effects of sharing information on social media (Liu et al., 2021). Depression, anxiety, and addiction are significant areas of study, but it is also vital to consider the markers of positive adaptation, which have both theoretical and practical value. We researched to determine how adolescents' social behavior is affected by the dissemination of information on social media. The fundamental mechanisms by which this effect is brought about. The findings of our research offer a comprehensive comprehension of the effects that individual development and adaptability are influenced by the dissemination of information via social media (Bermes, 2021). Moreover, adolescents may be consoled on how to utilize social networks in a prudent, healthy, and reasonable manner with the help of these findings (Greenhow; Robelia, 2009).

At the outset, information dissemination on social media platforms yielded a significant positive influence on the social conduct of adolescents, as predicted by our hypothesis. Through information exchange on social media platforms, individuals can engage in direct communication with their online acquaintances, thereby fostering an atmosphere of trust, diminishing interpersonal ambiguity, acquiring perceived social support, and positively impacting the formation of friendships. Additionally, active use can increase contentment while decreasing feelings of isolation and depression. The social behavior exhibited by adolescents is indicative of their overall life satisfaction, which encompasses positive emotions and efficient functioning. Information sharing on social media platforms not only facilitates interpersonal communication but also enhances the social conduct of adolescents who utilize these platforms. This indicates that information sharing on social media platforms may, to some degree, exert a positive influence on adolescents.

This study concurrently elucidates the internal mechanism by which offline and online social capital function as chain intermediaries. A notable and positive correlation was observed between the dissemination of information on social media platforms and online platforms, which is consistent with findings from prior research. Given that social capital has evolved into two forms with the development of the network, its function as a protective factor for adolescent mental health has not changed, as evidenced by the significant positive correlation between these two types of social capital and the social behavior of adolescents. Indeed, the social capital that is inherently present within an interpersonal network continues to hold significance in the network environment. Additionally, it may assume a more favorable function due to the network's ability to transcend the temporal and spatial constraints that are inherent in conventional modes of communication. In addition to granting individuals equitable access to social capital, the exchange of information on social media platforms becomes a crucial mechanism for preserving it. The findings of this research indicate a strong correlation between social capital and information sharing on social media platforms (Ghahtarani et al., 2020). Furthermore, both online and offline social capital mediates the relationship between this variable and adolescents' social behavior. This offers limited support for the claim that social media platforms enhance contentment. By demonstrating that online social capital transformed into offline social capital, the dual mediation model test established that online social capital can indeed affect reality (Berraies et al., 2020). In

addition to fostering interaction among users in an online environment, the dissemination of information on social media has a positive impact on the lives of young people in the offline world. Social media platforms have, to some degree, altered the manner in which adolescents live. The field of social capital is concurrently undergoing temporal and spatial transformations (Gannon *et al.*, 2020). An additional indication that information sharing on social media platforms can increase users' social capital is the positive correlation between social media usage and both online and offline social capital.

Information sharing on social media usage influenced the online lives of adolescents, as described in this study regarding the transformation of online social capital into offline social capital. While it is true that adolescents can acquire online social capital through the exchange of information on social media platforms, the direct and positive impact of this offline benefit on their social behavior was considerably diminished in comparison to the influence exercised by online social capital. An intriguing discovery has been made. The social behavior of adolescents to a larger extent than online social capital. This result implies that online behavior and the online environment still require a foothold in offline life in order to influence individuals, in addition to confirming the influence of offline social capital and the online environment. Social media are interconnected (Ghahtarani *et al.*, 2020) with and intersect with the physical world as components of the virtual living environment. The phenomenon of overlaps between online and offline social interactions can result in a conversion of influence from the former to the latter. It is imperative to acknowledge that the majority of this effect is executed via transformation mechanisms that are referred to in this research. Disregarding the interconnectedness of social media and the offline world as the internal mechanism through which social media influences the development of adolescents may result from conducting discrete research on the direct effects of social media use.

5. Conclusion, Limitation and Future Direction

This study examined the internal mechanisms through which the dissemination of various types of information on social media platforms influences the social behavior of Chinese adolescents, by combining the relationship between offline and online social capital, as suggested by prior research in this area. Through a dual mediating effect of offline and online social capital, the results demonstrated that adolescents' social behavior was substantially impacted by the information they shared on social media. Adolescents are increasingly utilizing social media platforms at an exponential rate. Students' frequency of use of various social media platforms and the nature of the content they share on those platforms are elucidated in the present study. As demonstrated by the findings, college students actively participate in a variety of social media sharing activities. With less confidential information, they frequently post content about amusement and entertainment. Amidst personal and academic circumstances, variations and parallels can be observed in the manner in which students share information and utilize social media. Boys and girls experience this effect of social media in a consistent manner, which contradicts previous research. Notwithstanding this, the constraints of this research must be recognized. Causality cannot be inferred from the data due to the cross-sectional design of the study. Social capital and information sharing on social media are strongly correlated, according to the findings of a longitudinal study. Furthermore, alterations in adolescents' intimate relationships are correlated with the extent to which information sharing on social media influences social behavior. Further investigations could be undertaken in the future, whether experimental or longitudinal, to examine the causal relationship between the variables identified in this study. The second characteristic of this study's participants is that the majority of them were urbanites recruited from two middle schools in Northwest China. This factor could potentially restrict the study's applicability concerning regional economic disparities. Thus, it is recommended that forthcoming investigations enlist subjects hailing from diverse geographical areas across the nation. Thirdly, a convenience sample was designed for this investigation. For greater precision, future research should employ random sampling to select participants. However, despite these constraints, this research represents the initial examination of the impact of information sharing on social media usage on the social behavior of adolescents. It also elucidates the mediating mechanism through which social capital transitions from the digital to the physical realm. This partially substantiates the notion that social media has a beneficial impact on the cognitive development of adolescents. At last, social media has become an essential component of the daily lives of adolescents in China due to its extensive proliferation. A substantial number of adolescents, in the hundreds of millions, have matured and engaged in online activities. Not only has the study specifically addressed the dissemination of information on social media platforms, but social media applications have permeated every facet of adolescent existence. In addition to fostering adolescent development, online purchasing, takeaway applications, online entertainment, and online education collectively constitute a vast ecosystem. A discourse regarding the effects of social media on Chinese adolescents is not only pertinent but also essential.

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