

## Interview Guide

Research Question	Interview Questions
What experiences do college students have with negative social media content affecting their moods and thoughts?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe the content you see most on your social media. What appeals to you about the type of content you tend to spend the most time looking at?</li><li>• Tell me about a time you saw something negative on social media<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ expand on how it made you feel afterwards?</li></ul></li><li>• How have you seen changes in your moods, likes/dislikes, opinions, etc.. based on things you have seen on social media opposing your initial stance?</li></ul>
How do college students who use social media feel it impacts their productivity in daily life?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe your daily routine. What would you change if you did not have any social media to distract you during the day?</li><li>• In what parts of your day have you caught yourself distracted on social media instead of doing something more important?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Describe how you feel after noticing this distraction.</li></ul></li><li>• Have you ever had a period of time when you gave up social media?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ If yes, describe how you noticed changes in your days.</li><li>◦ If not, describe what has held you back from doing that and how you think it might harm or benefit you if you did.</li></ul></li></ul>

### Opening

- Introduce self
- The goal of the project is to learn more about the effects of social media on college students' lives in the physical environment and mentally. I will ask you questions about your use of social media and feelings about how it has affected your own life.
- There is no right or wrong answer, all the questions are just to try and understand more about your personal use of social media. If you are not comfortable answering a question you may decline to answer it.
- The interview will be recorded and transcribed but will not be shared with anyone and all names will be changed to preserve anonymity.

- The interview will take about 20-30 minutes to complete, and you may leave at any point if you no longer wish to answer questions or have to leave for alternate reasons.
- Do you agree to continue?

### Building Rapport

- For you to get to know a little bit about me, I am a telecommunication media studies major at Texas A&M University. I do a lot of photography for weddings, seniors, families, and camp retreats at Laity Lodge Family Camp! I enjoy getting to know people and learning more about other people's stories.
- I am in a class right now that is focusing on doing research and have focused on the impacts of social media throughout the semester. I find this topic very interesting because I believe social media plays such a big part in society today and there are so many layers to the benefits and harms of it that can be studied. I have personally seen how it affects me and am interested in hearing more about other people's experiences as well.
- Is there anything else you would like to know about me before we continue?
- Okay great, can you just describe some of your likes/dislikes, interests, and just share a little bit about yourself so I can get to know you a little better.
- Since this interview focuses on social media and how it intertwines into your life, can you share with me what social media platforms you use?
  - Which of those do you use the most?
- How many hours a day would you say you spend on social media?
- What initial motivations come to mind for why you use social media?

### Interview Questions

- Describe the content you see most on your social media. What appeals to you about the type of content you tend to spend the most time looking at?
- Tell me about a time you saw something negative on social media
  - expand on how it made you feel afterwards?
- How have you seen changes in your moods, likes/dislikes, opinions, etc.. based on things you have seen on social media opposing your initial stance?
- Describe your daily routine. What would you change if you did not have any social media to distract you during the day?
- In what parts of your day have you caught yourself distracted on social media instead of doing something more important?
  - Describe how you feel after noticing this distraction.
- Have you ever had a period of time when you gave up social media?
  - If yes, describe how you noticed changes in your days.
  - If not, describe what has held you back from doing that and how you think it might harm or benefit you if you did.

### Closing

- That is all the interview questions I have other than some demographic information I would like to ask, but before that, is there anything else you would like to add or expand upon?

### Demographic

- Great, the last thing I have for you then is just a couple of demographic questions
- What is your gender identity?
- How old are you?
- What is your race/ethnicity
- What pseudonym would you prefer to be used for you in the transcript and reports over the interview?

Thank you for your time and willingness to participate!