

To Study About Knowledge and Victimization of Online Dating Romance Scam Among Mamata Dental Students

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Abstract: Background: The study of Online romance scam is to know about knowledge and victimization among Mamata dental students. This study examined the characteristics of individuals who are more likely to engage in online dating and types of people who are more likely to prefer these online dating. This paper offers an overview of online romance scam and identity fraud.

Methodology: A Cross-sectional study was used to collect data from Mamata dental students in Khammam. The Objective of study is how widely crime is known and find out how individuals are learning about it. To know the prevalence rate of online romance scam.

Result: The study was conducted on 200 BDS students. The students included are Interns, Final years, Third years.

Conclusion: This paper concludes that online romance scams comprehend many faces of cybercrime and consequences. It examines how digital environments influences cybercriminal organization. This needs to be rethinking about providing avenues for victims to report the crime or at least making them more comfortable when doing so.

Keywords: Online dating, Romantic relationships, Romance scams, Identity fraud.

1. Introduction

The Online romance scam is a relatively new form of fraud. Online romance sites frequently claim that they have fundamentally altered the dating landscape for the better. In the Online romance scams, victims receive a “double hit” from this crime (i.e.) loss of money as well as loss of relationship. Mostly victims will be younger individuals who are relatively high in initiating relationships competence, extraversion and sensation seeking. They are four factors make online dating attractive to consumers. First, individuals do not have to leave their homes or workplaces to date. Second, the anonymity feature of internet allows individuals to participate privately in dating without oversight of others or fear. Third, interactive Online dating allows customers to experience new forms interaction such as, live chats, instant messaging, flirtatious emotions and nudges.

Fourth, online dating sites serve up “perfect matches” quickly. Scammers can attack from a distance and they can be anyone in cyberspace, they can easily change names, emails, photos and list themselves on different dating sites as being of different gender, race, age and sexual orientation. Identity fraud involves appropriation of legal identity which is concerned with the ability to authenticate claims to be a particular individual.

2. Objectives

1. How widely crime is known and find out how individuals are learning about it.
2. To know prevalence rate of online romance scams.

3. Methodology

- *Permission:* Permission was taken from head of the Department of Public Health Dentistry. Questionnaire and Informed consent is yet to be explained.
- *Study design:* A cross-sectional questionnaire based study will be conducted among students of Mamata Dental College, Khammam.
- *Pilot study:* After questionnaire is framed. It will be disturbed to the students for study and the number of students included in study is 30 students approximately.
- *Inclusive criteria:* All Interns (girls & boys) and final year and 3rd students will be present during the day of survey will be included.
- *Exclusion criteria:* A student who will be absent during the day of survey will be excluded.
- *Study procedure:* The study was conducted among 200 dental students. Personal data and Questionnaire will be included in this survey.

4. Survey Results

This study was conducted among 200 dental students of

which majority (78%) were females. Majority (40%) were Final years, Interns are about (34%). The sample was asked whether they had lost money or they someone personally who lost money to the online romance scammers. In the analysis that follows online dating status of each individual is based on their self-reported experience.

Table 1
Gender

| | FREQUENCY | PERCENT |
|--------|-----------|---------|
| MALE | 44 | 22.0 |
| FEMALE | 156 | 78.0 |
| TOTAL | 200 | 100.0 |

Table 2
Year

| | FREQUENCY | PERCENT |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|
| INTERNS | 68 | 34.0 |
| 4 th year | 80 | 40.0 |
| 3 rd year | 52 | 26.0 |
| total | 200 | 100.0 |

In the above table, 3rd year are about (26%), 4th year are about (40%), and Interns are about (34%).

Table 3
Have you heard of online romance scam?

| | FREQUENCY | PERCENT |
|-------|-----------|---------|
| YES | 124 | 62.0 |
| NO | 76 | 38.0 |
| total | 200 | 100.0 |

In the above table, 62% students have heard of online romance scams and 38% students have never heard of online romance scams.

Table 4

If yes, where have you heard of online romance scams from

| | FREQUENCY | PERCENT |
|------------|-----------|---------|
| Friends | 52 | 26.0 |
| Television | 132 | 66.0 |
| Newspapers | 8 | 4.0 |
| Others | 8 | 4.0 |
| Total | 200 | 100.0 |

In the above table, 66% students heard online romance scams from television, 26% students heard from friends, 4% students from newspapers and 4% students from others.

Table 5

Which age is more prone to online romance scams?

| | FREQUENCY | PERCENT |
|----------|-----------|---------|
| 18-24yrs | 180 | 90.0 |
| 25-34yrs | 8 | 4.0 |
| 45-54yrs | 12 | 6.0 |
| total | 200 | 100.0 |

In the above table, 90% of 18-24 yrs age group is more prone to online romance scam, 6% of 45-54yrs age group and 4% of 25-34yrs age group.

Table 6
Some common effects of online romance scams?

| | FREQUENCY | PERCENT |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------|
| Loss of money | 16 | 8.0 |
| Loss of relationship | 52 | 26.0 |
| Character assassination | 100 | 50.0 |
| others | 32 | 16.0 |
| total | 200 | 100.0 |

In the above table, it is concluded that 50% are mostly effected online romance scam with character assassination.

Table 7

Who among are more prone to become victims of online romance scams?

| | FREQUENCY | PERCENT |
|-------------------|-----------|---------|
| Working full time | 24 | 12.0 |
| Working part time | 48 | 24.0 |
| Retired person | 4 | 2.0 |
| unemployed | 124 | 62.0 |
| total | 200 | 100.0 |

In the above table, 62% of unemployed are more prone to become victims of online romance scams and least prone are retired persons of about 2%.

Table 8

Are online romance scams are increasing year by year?

| | FREQUENCY | PERCENT |
|-------|-----------|---------|
| Yes | 168 | 84.0 |
| No | 32 | 16.0 |
| Total | 200 | 100.0 |

In the above table, it is concluded that online romance scams are increasing year by year.

5. Discussion

This study set out to find out what types of people engage in online dating and what types of people prefer these relatively new forms of online methods. In the addition we hypothesized that younger people who are relatively more prone to initiating relationships.

Data is collected for 200 students from Mamata dental students. The survey revealed that 62% students have heard of online romance scams and 38% students have not heard of online romance scams. The students in this study indicated that who has awareness in online romance scam and cybercrime.

Among 200 students, 66% students heard from television. Among these, younger individuals of age group 18-24yrs are more prone to online romance scams. This provides the knowledge of some common effects of online romance scams has loss of money relationships and character assassination. This suggests warnings about fraud and make research for preventive measures.

6. Conclusion

After the survey to conclude the purpose of this research was to assess the knowledge and victimization of online romance scams among college students. This study reveals the

prevalence rates and younger individuals are more prone to initiate relationships. Online dating may therefore be an avenue for those social inhibitors to overcome their fears. This study suggests that the law enforcement community needs to make it easier for victims to report the crime.

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