

Title: Attempts to Control Perceptions on Social Media and Narcissism, Neuroticism, and Self Esteem

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Social media is a platform that allows individuals across the globe to interact with each other. In this process of interaction, individuals are constantly constructing and communicating their identities through their specific selection of photos, profile pictures, and bios (Siibak, 2009). Narcissists and low self-esteeming individuals have used this feature of social media to their benefit by enhancing their self-presentation online (Mehdizadeh, 2010). New research has extended on this by measuring the underlying desire to construct certain identities online (Keep & Attrill-Smith, 2017). The purpose of the present study was to measure the relationship between the desire to control the perceptions of others on social media (perception-control) and narcissism and self esteem. There were two hypotheses posed. Specifically, because narcissists and low self-esteeming individuals seek validation (Pincus & Lukowitsky, 2010; Leary, 1999), it was expected that there would be a positive relationship between perception-control and narcissism and a negative relationship between perception-control and self esteem. One hundred and nine (30 males, 79 females) psychology students from a Southern California Community College volunteered to participate for extra credit. Participants completed an online survey which took approximately thirty minutes to complete. Results showed support for all hypotheses. Specifically there was a positive relationship between perception-control and narcissism, and a negative relationship between perception-control and self esteem. These results reveal further insight into the behavior and desires of narcissists and low self-esteeming individuals.

References

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