Comparing Parent Report to Their Adolescent Children's Reports About Technology Use in Home and School Settings Megan Ledoux M.A.¹, Tara Regan M.S.W.², Susan Hedges Ph.D.²

¹ San Diego State University, CA ² The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Purpose

Adolescents on the autism spectrum spend more time using technology than their peers (Mazurek et al., 2012, 2013). In a recent study of high school students with autism regarding their use of technology, Hedges et al. (in press), found that teens report widespread use of technology to enhance their learning, increase their social interactions, and to help reduce stress. This current study seeks to confirm those findings by asking similar questions to parents of the adolescent study participants.

Research Question:

> What are parent and adolescent perceptions of the benefits and challenges of technology use?

Methods

Paper surveys were completed by 321 parent of high school students with autism receiving special education services across 3 states in the United States (California, North Carolina, and Wisconsin).

The questionnaires covered topics related to their children's technology use at home and at school. Technology was described as computers, cell phones, tablets, etc.

SESA Technology Use Survey-Parent Version							
Ve want to learn more about how your teen uses technology (comp /our answers to these questions are important to us.	outers, cell phor	nes, internet,	etc.).				
How Your Teen Uses Techn	nology at Hom	e					
 Is your teen good at using technology (meaning computers, ☐ Yes ☐ No 	, cell phones, iF	Pads, etc.)?		- F	1		
2) Describe how your teen typically communicates verbally; 1: Nonverbal 1: Single words 1: Short phrases 3: Sentences					CSESA Technology Use Survey-Student Version PLACE LABEL HERE		
Laptop Desktop computer Dotektop computer Date device (ike an Pad or Krole) Cell phone without internet (ile an Phone or Galaxy) Cell phone without internet Undeo Came consider of work(in like Play Station, Nritendo, Wii)					We want to learn more about how you use technology (computers, cell phones, internet, etc.) to help you lea and to be successful. Your answers to these questions are really important to us. Take your time and think carefully about your answers. How You Use Technology at School		
iPod or MP3 player							
☐ Communication device/software (ex. Proloquo2go, Dynav ☐ Other, please list:		c		_	 Are you are good at using technology? 		
Communication device/software (ex. Proloquo2go, Dynav		د <u></u>		-	□ Yes □ No		
Communication device/software (ex. Protoquo2go, Dynav Other, please list: My teen does not use technology at home (skip to question) 4) How often does your teen use technology at <u>HOME</u>	ion 14) Everyday	Some		Not	Yes No Check off <u>ALL</u> the types of technology you <i>bring with you to school most days</i> .		
Communication device/software (ex. Protopucigo, Dyna. Other, plases leit. Myteen does not use technology at home (skip to question 4) How often does your teen use technology at HOME To help stay organized for school (keep track of assignments, unomplete assignments, but in assignments, etc.)	ion 14) Everyday	Some			□ Yes □ No		
Communication device/software (ex. Proloquolgo, Dyna Communication device/software (ex. Proloquolgo, Dyna Detre places let: University of the software benchmology at HOME To help stay organized for software fund in a software for complete assignments, bun in assignments, etc.) To look things up on the internet for homework	ion 14) Everyday	Some			Ves No Check off <u>ALL</u> the types of technology you <i>bring with you to school</i> most days. Laptop		
Communication device/software (ex. Protopucigo, Dyna. Other, plases leit. Myteen does not use technology at home (skip to question 4) How often does your teen use technology at HOME To help stay organized for school (keep track of assignments, unomplete assignments, but in assignments, etc.)	ion 14) Everyday	Some			Yes No Check off <u>ALL</u> the types of technology you <i>bring with you to school most days</i> . Laptop Tablet device (like an iPad or Kindle)		
Communication device/software (ex. Proloquolgo, Dyna Communication device/software (ex. Proloquolgo, Dyna Detre places let: University of the software benchmology at HOME To help stay organized for software fund in a software for complete assignments, bun in assignments, etc.) To look things up on the internet for homework	ion 14) Everyday	Some			Yes No Check off <u>ALL</u> the types of technology you <i>bring with you to school most days.</i> Laptop Tablet device (like an iPad or Kindle) Cell phone with internet (like an iPhone or Galaxy)		
Communication device/software (ex. Proloquo3go, Dyna, Communication device/software (ex. Proloquo3go, Dyna, Device places let: University of the software of the software of the software of) How often does your teen use technology at <u>HOME</u> To help stay organized for software (software) To bolt brings up on the internet for own interests To look things up on the internet for own interests	ion 14) Everyday	Some			Yes No Check off <u>ALL</u> the types of technology you <i>bring with you to school most days</i> . Laptop Tablet device (like an iPad or Kindle) Cell phone with internet (like an iPhone or Galaxy) Cell phone without internet		
Communication device/software (ex. Photopuction, Dyna Other, plasse leit: Differ, plasse leit: Differ, plasse leit: To help stay organized for school (keep track of assignments, complete assignments, teri, assignments, etc.) To look things or the internet for non-interests To look things or on the internet for own interests To look things up on the internet for own interests To communicate with others (friends, family, leachers)	ion 14) Everyday	Some			Yes No Check off <u>ALL</u> the types of technology you <i>bring with you to school</i> most days. Laptop Tablet device (like an iPad or Kindle) Cell phone with internet (like an iPhone or Galaxy) Cell phone without internet Game device (like a Nintendo DS)		

Parent/Caregiver Characteristics					
Race	White (67%)				
Ethnicity	Non-Hispanic (79%)				
Education	College degree (25%) Associate's degree/Some college (23%)				
Income	<u>≥</u> 80K (37%)				



96% of adolescents indicated that they are "good at using technology".

Parent Report	How Teen Reduc	ces Anx
83%	59%	7
Listen to Music	Phone to Call or Text	Medit ap

94% of adolescents reported they use technology to communicate and socialize.

Parent & Teen Report Communication & So					
	Parent	Adole			
	(%)	(0			
Text	64	6			
Phone	57	7			
Social Media	42	6			
Email	42	6			
Video Calls	29	4			



✤ Becomes a distraction (71%)

Excessive use (84%)

Results

Parents/Caregivers reported their perceptions of benefits and challenges regarding their adolescent's technology use.

57% of adolescents reported feeling distracted

Challenges





by technology.





itation pp

ocial Use

- escent (%)
- 69
- 79
- 60
- 64
- 42

Conclusion

- Parent reports of the benefits and challenges of technology are similar to what their children reported.
- Within interventions consider the benefits of providing access to technology tools for their students with autism to help increase independence, communication, and social interactions as well as reduce anxiety.
- \succ There is a need to identify ways to mitigate the distracting aspects of technology for adolescents with ASD.

References

- Hedges, S., Odom, S., Hume, K., & Sam, A. (in press). Technology use as a support tool for secondary students with autism. Autism.
- Mazurek, M. & Engelhardt, C. (2013). Video game use and problem behaviors in boys with autism spectrum disorders. Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders, 7, 316-324. doi: 10.1016/j.rasd.2012.09.008
- Mazurek, M.O., Shattuck, P. T., Wagner, M., & Cooper, B. P. (2012). Prevalence and correlates of screen-based media use among youths with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders, 42, 1757-1767. doi: 10.1007/s10803-011-1413-8

Contact Information: teregan@live.unc.edu