

FAMILIARITY AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES: THE IMPACT OF STUDENTS' GENDER

Despoina Kaltsidou

Department of Social Administration
Democritus University of Thrace
69100, Komotini
deskal85@gmail.com

Charalampos Tsairidis

Department of Social Administration
Democritus University of Thrace
69100, Komotini
xtsairid@pme.duth.gr

Efstathios Dimitriadis

Kavala Institute of Technology
Agios Loukas, 65404, Kavala
edimit@teikav.edu.gr

ABSTRACT

In recent years new technologies are widely used in educational institutions and even in children that are in kindergarten or in the early grades of elementary school. These pilot programs are applied to kindergarten and primary school students in order to familiarize young students with the new technologies.

A series of surveys conducted in the past showed different levels of familiarity between the two genders with men being keener on new technologies than women.

The aim of this study is to investigate whether the use of new technologies by children in the early ages tends to ensure the diversification between the genders. Research conducted on 418 kindergartens, elementary and high school students showed that both boys and girls regard the use of computer as important as playing games on it. There is no difference between boys and girls in the prospect of using social networks considering them as enjoyable while they regard the use of computers as difficult.

Key words: Genders, Familiarity, New Technology, Pupils.