

The Internet Addiction versus Aggressive Behaviour among the Youth

Abstract

The aim of the article is to address and to answer the question to what degree secondary school students are addicted to the Internet and whether this addiction is interrelated with the phenomenon of aggression among young people. The presented findings were obtained on the basis of Kimberly Young's Addiction Questionnaire and B. Urban's Aggressive Behaviour Chart revealing stunning results as in case of secondary school students (contrary to the younger pupils referred to and described in the literature) there are no direct or definite relations between the degree of the Internet addiction and aggressive behaviour manifested by them.

Keywords: aggression and its types, the Internet, Internet addiction

1. The Internet addiction: its essence, types, consequences

The contemporary researchers keep asking the question about reasons for aggressive behaviour among children and young people. They are searching for the answer on both genetic and environmental grounds. There is also a lot of research showing the connection between an increase in aggressive tendencies and contact with violence received through the mass media [R. Vasta, M. Haith & A. Miller, (1995), p. 506 and further].

In Poland, M. Braun-Gałkowska carried out research in a group of boys aged 12–15 which proved that the boys who played computer games at least 10 hours a week were more aggressive and it referred to their physical and verbal aggressive-