SUMMARY OF THE THESIS

The present research was conducted to study the effect of three independent variables viz., parental (psychological) control, psychological hardiness and peer relationships on internet usage of adolescents. Descriptive exploratory method of research was used in the present investigation. Sample of the study consisted of 600 adolescents (both boys and girls) of class IX only. Results of the study revealed that adolescents with high and low parental control differ significantly from each other on total internet usage scores, time spent online, purpose of using internet, and negative content viewed online. Similarly adolescents with warm and hostile peer relationships significantly differed on total internet usage, time spent online, negative content viewed online dimensions. Moreover results further reveal that parental control and peer relationships significantly interact with each other to influence the internet usage of adolescents. A significant three order interaction was also observed between three independent variables viz., parental (psychological) control, psychological hardiness and peer relationships on total internet usage scores and time spent online scores. It can be inferred from the results of the study that parent and peer are important factors affecting internet usage of adolescents.