

## NEW MEDIA CHALLENGES: ANALYSIS OF FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS IN DESA NAMPES, PANDAAN, INDONESIA

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### ABSTRAK

Keterlibatan keluarga dalam pengembangan kemampuan akademik dan perilaku anak merupakan fondasi penting dalam pembentukan karakter. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis peran keluarga, terutama orang tua, dalam membentuk karakter remaja melalui komunikasi efektif dan pendidikan moral, serta dampaknya ketika digabungkan dengan pengaruh *new media*. Metode yang digunakan adalah pendekatan kualitatif dengan wawancara mendalam pada 30 remaja dan orang tua di Surabaya. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa bimbingan orang tua yang konsisten berperan signifikan dalam memperkuat norma keluarga, meskipun tantangan dari pengaruh media digital semakin meningkat. Pemanfaatan *new media* secara bijak dapat menjadi alat pendukung pengembangan karakter jika didampingi oleh pengawasan orang tua yang aktif. Studi ini menegaskan pentingnya kolaborasi antara peran keluarga dan teknologi untuk menciptakan generasi muda yang berintegritas.

**Kata kunci:** Hubungan keluarga, Pola Asuh, New Media, desa Nampes.

### ABSTRACT

*Family involvement in developing children's academic and behavioral abilities is an important foundation in character formation. This study aims to analyze the role of the family, especially parents, in shaping adolescents' character through effective communication and moral education, as well as its impact when combined with the influence of new media. The method used was qualitative, with in-depth interviews with 30 adolescents and parents in Surabaya. The study results show that consistent parental guidance plays a significant role in strengthening family norms, although the challenges of the influence of digital media are increasing. The wise use of new media can be a tool to support character development if accompanied by active parental supervision. This study emphasizes the importance of collaboration between the role of family and technology to create a young generation with integrity.*

**Keywords:** Family Relationship, Parenting, New Media, Nampes Village.

### Introduction

In adolescence, character building becomes very important because it will affect a person's future. The role of communication, especially in the context of the family, has enormous significance. Sholihah and Iswahyudi (2023) emphasize the enormous impact of communication in shaping adolescent character. In the village of Nampes, where my research was conducted, communication's role in shaping adolescents' character is very diverse. Villagers, who come from different backgrounds and have different beliefs, use different communication styles in their families, thus influencing adolescent development. For example, in families that practice open communication and empathy, teens tend to be more open in expressing their feelings and thoughts, which in turn can help them develop healthy communication skills and build strong relationships with others.

On the other hand, families that tend to be authoritarian or authoritative may use a more authoritarian style of communication, where teens may find it difficult to talk about their feelings or problems. This can result in restrictions in developing social and emotional skills

that are important in shaping adolescent character. In addition, factors such as culture and tradition also play an important role in the family's communication style. For example, in Nampes village, Javanese families may have a more polite and traditional values-oriented communication style, while families belonging to a more heterogeneous culture may have a more dynamic communication style and be open to outside influences. Therefore, an understanding of the various communication styles in the family context can help us understand how communication affects adolescent character building and provide valuable insights for efforts to improve the quality of communication in the family. (Ramadhanti et al., 2024)

In the village of Nampes, there are various communication styles among the heads of families. Therefore, this study aims to explore how communication style influences the character formation of adolescents in the village. In my research, I examined 10 heads of families, but I will only mention 5 families in this report because these 5 families have elements of new media integration in their communication patterns. A common belief among families is to educate and guide their teens toward good behavior and morals through words and body language. Communication methods, both through speech patterns and body language within the family, play an important role in this process. In addition, the heads of families in Nampes village have high expectations of their teenagers, emphasizing the importance of social ethics and maintaining the family's reputation in social interactions. (Zhou et al., 2024)

As a result, teenagers in the village have acquired formidable communication skills, considered one of the key factors in shaping the village's future. This ability not only impacts the interpersonal interactions of adolescents but also affects the overall social dynamics. The communication process in Nampes village is actively adjusting to situational factors and participant dynamics. This is reflected in the interpersonal communication practices recognized by local communities, where dyadic communication, in particular, is considered vital in fostering mutually beneficial relationships and ensuring satisfaction among the individuals involved. (Ramadhana et al., 2019)

Sustainable interpersonal communication practices in Nampes village form a solid foundation for healthy and sustainable social interaction. By taking into account the uniqueness of each individual and the different situations, the communication approach adopted tends to foster a sense of respect and mutual understanding among villagers. Dyadic communication, which is a form of communication between two individuals, not only facilitates the effective exchange of information but also strengthens the social and emotional bond between them. (Retno Budi Wahyuni et al., 2023)

The interpersonal communication approach agreed upon by the Nampes villagers reflects the values of solidarity and togetherness that characterize their community. By focusing on open and inclusive communication, the people of Nampes village are able to maintain harmonious and resilient relationships, which in turn supports positive growth and development for the entire community. Furthermore, the communication style in Nampes village is also reflected in the cultural norms and values that are firmly held by the local community. For example, in the context of family communication, politeness and respect for parents are strongly emphasized. Teenagers are taught to speak politely to parents and village elders and to show facial expressions that indicate respect and respect. In addition, the communication patterns used in the Nampes family also reflect strong hierarchical relationships between family

members. The head of the family is often the center of communication and the decisive authority in family decision-making. Teenagers tend to follow directions and advice from their parents with great respect, illustrating the importance of hierarchy and obedience in village culture. (Nagamallika, 2018)

In addition, the increased use of new media has led to a marked change in communication patterns and social interaction among adolescents in Nampes Village. Integrating social media platforms and digital media into everyday life has changed communication dynamics in such communities. Although located far from the urban center, the impact of new media is very visible in Nampes Village (Afrilia, 2020). Internet access and the use of social media have changed communication and social interaction among teenagers. New media platforms serve as a means to connect individuals with diverse sources of information, potentially shaping their attitudes and behaviors. This introduces complexity in adolescent character building, posing challenges for parents and educators in integrating new media into family communication to cultivate positive character traits. (Schemer et al., 2021)

Therefore, this planned study aims to investigate the impact of the use of new media on communication patterns within families in Nampes Village. Along with the development of digital technology, there has been a shift in how families communicate, where interactions that previously occurred directly between family members are now also influenced by digital media. This raises the question of how changes in new media use affect communication dynamics within families, particularly in rural environments such as Nampes Village. In this context, parents in Nampes Village face new challenges in educating their children in the digital age. They should consider how to guide their children in using new media wisely while still maintaining the values and norms upheld in the family and society. This requires parents to understand the influence of new media on adolescent social interaction and character building and develop appropriate strategies to ensure that their use of media supports not hinders their children's positive development (Hana Thifal Hanifah et al., 2024)

Integrating new media into family communication patterns in Nampes Village also raises questions about its influence on the dynamics of relationships between family members. In situations where digital interactions can replace in-person interactions, it is important to understand how this affects the quality of family relationships and adolescent character development. This study will explore whether the use of new media in family communication produces positive or negative impacts on interpersonal relationships and character-building of adolescents in Nampes Village.

The village of Nampes, characterized by its vastness and population density, shows significant diversity in social and economic backgrounds. This diversity plays an important role in shaping adolescent character, which is the focus of our research. Families in Nampes, representing a variety of backgrounds, adopt different approaches to childcare, which results in individual differences in character building. The interaction between residents from diverse backgrounds results in a unique social dynamic within the village. One impact of this diversity is the relatively high incidence of crime, which often stems from unfavorable economic conditions. Many teens in Nampes face challenges such as broken homes, violence, or bullying, which contribute to high rates of juvenile delinquency. The surrounding environment, influenced by those closest to them, significantly impacts adolescents' behavior, causing social

conditions that can have positive or negative consequences. However, not all of these effects are detrimental. Some teenagers in Nampes, who benefit from the positive influence of their families and neighborhoods, show character traits that deserve thumbs up and have the potential to make a positive contribution to the future of the village. The formation of these positive character traits has significance for the village's sustainable development and a more complete community. (He, 2022)

In Nampes Village, the role of new media is very important in shaping the perception and character of adolescents, potentially becoming a tool of empowerment. The accessibility of diverse information through new media allows adolescents to broaden their views beyond their surroundings. This platform provides access to diverse knowledge and life perspectives and allows adolescents to express themselves and interact with the wider community (Cahyono, 2019). In addition, new media effectively drives positive social change and fosters a more tolerant society in Nampes Village. Adolescents, who are prone to psychological and social challenges, often face problems such as peer pressure, family conflicts, and academic stress (Setyowati, 2021). These challenges can devastate their mental and behavioral well-being, emphasizing the importance of supporting them in overcoming those barriers and developing positive character traits. Effective and transparent family communication is essential in shaping positive character in adolescents, influencing their emotional, social, and moral development. Although the benefits of family communication have been recognized for a long time, many families still face difficulties in establishing effective and open communication channels.

The family, defined as a group of individuals connected through marriage, birth, or adoption, aims to cultivate cultural values and promote its members' overall physical, mental, emotional, and social development (Setiana, 2019). Communication in the family involves conveying messages from parents to children regarding family norms and values to foster unity and form a harmonious family environment. In a broader context, interpersonal communication, which is characterized by face-to-face interactions that allow direct verbal or non-verbal responses, also plays an important role in shaping social perceptions and interactions (Prayogi, 2021). This form of communication involves two individuals with a clear relationship or connection, such as between a mother and child, a doctor and a patient, or in the context of an interview, emphasizes the importance of effective communication in various aspects of social life (Anggraini, Ritonga, Kristina, Sham, & Kurniawan, 2022).

Previous research has shown that effective family communication can help adolescents cope with emotional challenges, such as depression and anxiety (Giawa, Sari, & Huda, 2023). The effectiveness of family communication is also very important in shaping adolescents social skills, enabling them to interact with others constructively (Aswandy & Fitriana, 2022). Positive communication fosters adolescent understanding of family moral and ethical values, thus forming a positive worldview. Nevertheless, many families have difficulty establishing productive channels of communication. Factors such as proximity, cultural disparity, and social context can affect communication effectiveness. Therefore, families need to improve communication with adolescents, thus favoring the development of their positive character. Family has a significant influence on the development of character and personality. Family communication plays an important role in shaping the personality of family members, especially children (Amalia & Natsir, 2017). Effective communication can cultivate a healthy

lifestyle in the family. A loving, cooperative, respectful, and open relationship between parent and child, fosters family harmony. Interpersonal communication in the family is very important in educating adolescents.

Research conducted in Tataaran 1 Village, South Tondano District, identified various parenting styles, namely permissive, authoritarian, and democratic, significantly affecting adolescent behavior (Adawiyah, 2019). This parenting style creates opportunities for juvenile delinquency. Children raised in an environment characterized by negative parenting styles tend to develop poor self-concepts. Effective communication between parents and children is essential to instill positive character traits (Handayani, 2020). Achieving effective communication requires the use of appropriate strategies. This study aims to identify factors that influence family communication in shaping adolescent attitudes and characters. Through this research, we aim to reveal the impact of family communication on adolescent character and provide recommendations to promote positive communication. Our research will focus on the role of family communication in shaping adolescent character, examine how effective communication affects adolescent development, and discuss strategies to foster better communication.

## **Method**

This study uses qualitative methods with a descriptive approach to explore the impact of new media on adolescents in Nampes Village. Following Marshall & Rossman (2016), it aims to provide a detailed understanding of individual experiences through interviews, observations, and document analysis. Data will be collected from adolescents and family members to assess how new media influences social interactions and character building. Additionally, social media content and online forums will be analyzed. The research aims to offer insights for parents and educators on managing new media interactions and promoting positive, responsible use among adolescents in rural areas.

## **Result and Discussion**

In the context of the ever-evolving digital era, the role of new media, especially digital media, plays an increasingly unavoidable role in shaping adolescents' character. Informants A, B, C, D, and E, who represent some of society's views, recognize that the approach to guiding adolescents is not only through face-to-face interaction but also through active involvement in cyberspace. They agree that social media, online videos, and internet forums have become important platforms for self-expression and social learning among teens. These families frequently mention platforms such as Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, WhatsApp, TikTok, Twitter, Snapchat, Reddit, and Discord as influential in shaping adolescent behavior. In this regard, it is important for parents and counselors to provide proper supervision and guidance in navigating interactions in the digital realm. Such supervision needs to be done so that adolescents can distinguish between content that has a positive and negative impact on their development. (Buckingham, 2008)

In addition, awareness of the impact of new media on adolescent character also raises the need for better media literacy. Adolescents need to be equipped with the skills to sort out information, identify reliable sources, and understand the implications of their media

consumption. Parents and mentors have an important role in educating adolescents about media literacy so they can make wiser decisions in using digital media. (Metzger & Flanagin, 2008)

Table 1. The Approach of Each Informant in Shaping the Character of Adolescents

Informant	Approach to Shaping Teen Character	Use of Digital Media	Family Relationships	Challenges Faced
A	Providing education and guidance to differentiate good and bad behavior. Instilling healthy family values. Emphasizing the importance of good communication.	Facebook and YouTube are used for sharing educational content.	Close and harmonious family relationships, known as "Spruce Family."	Managing the impact of new media on character formation.
B	Emphasizing the importance of good interpersonal communication. Providing guidance in teens' decision-making.	Instagram and WhatsApp are used to maintain family relationships and monitor online activities.	Experiences "Broken Home" dynamics, negatively impacting the family environment.	Unstable family environment and the risk of negative effects from digital media.
C	Giving freedom to teenagers to express themselves. Providing strict guidance on family values.	TikTok is used to showcase talents, and Twitter for discussions and identity exploration.	Lack of emotional connection in the family, creating an unhealthy family atmosphere.	Balancing self-expression freedom with family values.
D	Allowing teens to express themselves freely. Implementing strict supervision and boundaries to maintain behavior.	Snapchat and Reddit are used for self-expression but require strict monitoring.	Highly regulated family environment, creating an unhealthy atmosphere.	Excessive family pressure pushes teens to seek freedom outside supervision.

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E	Giving full autonomy to teens to choose their own path.	No supervision over digital media usage.	Less harmonious family relationships due to negative influences (including drugs).	Lack of guidance leads to less-directed teen behavior.
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According to Informant A, an important strategy in shaping adolescents' character in Nampes Village is to provide education and guidance that allows them to distinguish between good and bad behavior for their good. The approach applied by Informant A involves attempting to direct their children towards actions that are considered noble and moral. They consistently model good behavior to their children and provide guidance on the importance of socializing and interacting with neighbors in their neighborhood. Informant A actively uses Facebook and YouTube to share educational content with their children, emphasizing the importance of positive behavior. Informant A is well aware of the important role of communication in parent-child relationships, acknowledging that good communication substantially impacts adolescents' character in Nampes Village. Informant A's family group, often referred to as the "Spruce Family," is recognized as having a solid foundation and carrying out their family roles harmoniously. They build close relationships and provide comprehensive support to each other.

For Informant A, strengthening close family relationships and creating a pleasant family environment are important elements in shaping an individual's character for a better future. Informant A's presentation of their approach in guiding the character of adolescents in Nampes Village provides a real picture of the central role of the family in facing the digital age. Through her narration, Informant A highlights how new media, in the midst of social and technological transformation, also influences the character formation of adolescents. Furthermore, Informant A asserts that families can act as mediators in this process, emphasizing the importance of healthy family values and relationships in the face of the challenges of changing times. (Office of the Surgeon General, 2023)

According to Informant B, one of the crucial aspects in the character building of adolescents in Nampes Village is teaching children to engage in positive actions, a principle similar to the views expressed by Informant A. Informant B consistently emphasizes the importance of behaving appropriately in interpersonal relationships, viewing effective interpersonal communication within the family environment as a key factor to prevent possible problems from occurring. For him, adolescent character building requires diligent parental involvement, which includes giving advice and direction to their children, especially in decision-making and navigating their future path. Informant B utilizes Instagram and WhatsApp to maintain family ties and monitor their children's online activities, recognizing both platforms' significant influence. Informant B also recognized the significant role of strong family ties in shaping positive traits in children. However, in a frank confession, his family has experienced difficult times marked by "Broken Home" that can indirectly affect the development of the teenager's character. This tense dynamic in families can create an unhealthy environment for children, which in turn impacts their mental well-being and growth. Related to the current digital era, Informant B noted the correlation between his views and the influence of new media on adolescent character formation. She acknowledged that platforms such as the

internet and social media significantly influence adolescent behavior. Therefore, Informant B affirms the importance of instilling and practicing good behavior in the family environment while recognizing that new media can serve as a tool to extend this teaching beyond family boundaries into the wider social sphere. In this new media era, communication between parent and child is no longer limited by geographical boundaries. This allows parents to leverage digital platforms to maintain meaningful relationships with their children, especially when face-to-face interaction is hindered by distance or other limitations.

According to Informant C, one of the most important things in the process of raising teenagers in the family sphere is to give them the freedom to express themselves. Informant C emphasized that during adolescence, individuals should be free to voice their aspirations, ambitions, and goals. For her, giving teens the autonomy to explore their own identity is key in shaping positive traits during this stage. However, alongside this struggle to grant freedom, Informant C also highlighted the importance of providing strict guidance and supervision to adolescents. According to Informant C's perspective, adolescents should be raised according to the values that their families consider good, but without inhibiting or limiting their self-expression. However, although all family members were present in Informant C's family, there was a lack of emotional connection between them.

This results in an unhealthy family atmosphere and fails to fulfill the complete role of family bonding. In such families, each member tends to inhabit his or her own realm, which causes various impacts on family relationships. Informant C encourages their children to use TikTok to showcase their talents and Twitter to engage in discussions and explore their identity. The perspective presented by Informant C on the importance of giving adolescents the freedom to express themselves and discover their identity, especially in the context of the digital age, has significant relevance. Advances in digital technology have expanded opportunities for teens to explore themselves, interact with others, and shape their identities. Platforms such as social media and online forums offer diverse opportunities for teens to share their interests, views, and achievements and explore their identity through virtual social interactions. The story told by Informant C is in line with the benefits of new media in shaping the character of teenagers. In today's digital era, where online interaction is increasingly dominant, providing space for adolescents to express themselves freely while still getting the right guidance and direction is very important in an effort to form a positive character in adolescence.

Based on the educational approach, Informant D believes that the principles that are beneficial to him will also benefit the adolescent in his family. Thus, in his family, Informant D seeks to provide freedom of expression to all family members, including teenagers, even with little pressure, so they can openly express their emotions and pursue their aspirations. However, despite awareness of the importance of providing freedom of expression, Informant D ignores the development and special needs of adolescents in his family, especially regarding appropriate expression and age-appropriate behavior. The families described by Informant D impose strict regulations on teenagers, creating a toxic and unhealthy atmosphere that can be detrimental to their character development. Informant D recognizes that their children often use Snapchat and Reddit to seek freedom and self-expression, which requires careful supervision to prevent exposure to harmful content. Informant D believed that adolescents needed close monitoring and boundaries, with concerns that excessive freedom could hinder their ability to distinguish



between right and wrong. Such a strict family environment significantly impacts the character development of adolescents, encouraging them to engage in activities outside of parental supervision. As a result, this often strains interpersonal relationships and reduces the character qualities of adolescents due to the pressure exerted by the unsupportive surrounding environment. The discussion of the influence of new media on adolescents remains relevant, especially in the family context as explained by the experience of Informant D. In highly regulated households, adolescents often seek avenues for self-expression and identity exploration through social media platforms and online communities. However, these efforts also carry the risk of exposure to negative influences and misinformation. Therefore, it is important for parents to understand and supervise the use of new media as an integral part of adolescent character building. (Cohen et al., 2023)

From the point of view of Informant E, the approach to forming the character of adolescents differs significantly from others. The informant advocated giving the teenager in his family complete autonomy to determine his own path in life. Informant E showed little concern for the development of adolescents in her family, resulting in a lack of enforcement of rules or family pressure on adolescents. According to the informant, every individual has the right to pursue his aspirations without being restricted by external regulations. This leads to rather wild adolescent behavior, lacking proper direction or guidance in life. They grow without clear boundaries, resulting in less desirable characters. Family background trapped in a drug environment contributes to an unhealthy family atmosphere and affects various family members, especially with unfavorable characters. Such families show a lack of attention to each other, causing disharmonious relations among family members. In such a family setting, the role of the family in providing proper direction and guidance is minimal. The absence of a strong foundation and proper guidance from the family greatly affects the development of adolescents. Without enough structure or guidance, they develop different characters than other teenagers. Informant E's children can often use platforms like YouTube, Discord, and online gaming communities without sufficient oversight. Informant E described a complex and unconventional family dynamic in which adolescents are given unlimited freedom without guidance.

Informant E's experience reveals several challenges when discussing relations with new media. New media can potentially reinforce risky behaviors and negative influences if not properly monitored. Of the five informants interviewed, all agreed on the importance of parents educating their children through effective family communication and appropriate delivery methods. This interview highlights the important role of communication in shaping adolescents' character. Teens need guidance and direction from their families to abstain from behaviors that might lead to negative character traits. Based on these interviews, parents can conclude that effective communication is important in forming positive characteristics of adolescents. Through open communication, parents can provide proper guidance, influence their children's attitudes and behavior, and establish a strong bond with their children. Thus, effective communication not only strengthens family ties, but also helps shape the positive character of adolescents in Nampes Village. (Sugiarti et al., 2022)

Overall, these discussions with the five families highlight how new media influences adolescents' character-building in Nampes Village. Social media platforms such as Facebook,

Instagram, TikTok, Twitter, WhatsApp, Snapchat, Reddit, YouTube, and Discord play significant roles in shaping teenagers' behaviors, attitudes, and values. The key to leveraging these platforms positively lies in providing proper supervision, guidance, and education about media literacy. Parents and counselors must actively engage in their children's digital lives to ensure that they develop into responsible, moral, and well-rounded individuals capable of navigating the challenges of the digital age. (Tesa Yolanka Sitompul et al., 2024)

Family dynamics and the influence of new media play significant roles in shaping adolescents' character in Nampes Village. Based on the narratives of Informants A, B, C, D, and E, it is evident that families employ various approaches, each with unique impacts on character building. Informant A underscores the importance of strong family values and open communication, emphasizing harmony within the family and using platforms like Facebook and YouTube for educational purposes. They actively nurture positive behavior and foster social connections, creating a supportive environment for adolescent development. Informant B highlights the role of interpersonal communication and parental involvement, even in challenging circumstances such as a broken home. By using platforms like Instagram and WhatsApp, they supervise their children's activities and maintain moral guidance, ensuring stability and continuity despite familial disruptions. Informant C, on the other hand, advocates for granting freedom of expression while balancing autonomy with supervision. Although emotional disconnection within the family is a challenge, platforms like TikTok and Twitter provide adolescents with opportunities for self-expression, which can help develop their identity.

Informant D, however, adopts a more restrictive approach, supporting freedom within strict boundaries. Unfortunately, these strict regulations often create a toxic environment, straining relationships and prompting adolescents to seek independence through platforms like Snapchat and Reddit. In contrast, Informant E employs a hands-off approach, granting complete autonomy without offering guidance. This lack of oversight often results in undesirable character traits, familial disharmony, and vulnerability to external negative influences, such as exposure to drugs. These diverse narratives illustrate the complex interplay between family roles and the impact of new media on adolescent character formation.

New media emerges as a double-edged sword in this context. On the positive side, digital platforms serve as tools for education, self-expression, and identity exploration. For instance, Informants A and C use social media to promote constructive activities and support their children's social connections. However, without proper guidance, new media can expose adolescents to harmful content, misinformation, and problematic behaviors. This risk is evident in the experiences of Informants D and E, where inadequate supervision or excessive freedom exacerbates negative outcomes. These cases underscore the need for families to find a balance between freedom and discipline in adolescents' media use.

Media literacy is crucial in navigating this complex landscape. All informants recognize its importance in equipping adolescents with the skills to identify reliable sources of information, understand the implications of online interactions, and make informed decisions about media consumption. Media literacy empowers adolescents to use digital platforms responsibly, mitigating risks while maximizing benefits.

Several recommendations emerge from the narratives to foster positive character development in adolescents. First, strengthening family bonds through open communication and mutual support is essential. A nurturing environment lays the foundation for character building. Second, families must supervise and guide media use, ensuring adolescents engage with digital platforms responsibly while fostering media literacy to reduce potential risks. Third, balancing freedom and discipline is vital. Adolescents need opportunities for self-expression, but reasonable boundaries and guidance must temper this to ensure healthy development. Finally, promoting positive role models through digital platforms can reinforce moral values and inspire constructive behaviors. By sharing educational and uplifting content, families and communities can leverage new media as a force for good. Together, these strategies highlight the integral roles of family dynamics and media literacy in shaping adolescents' character in an increasingly digital world.

### **Conclusions**

In shaping adolescents' character within the family, gaps often exist between parents and children. This incomprehension can lead to behaviors parents do not expect. Parents must understand their children's challenges, be patient listeners, and support them appropriately to maintain character aligned with norms. Digital platforms like Facebook, YouTube, and TikTok highlight the need for parental involvement in children's online activities. Effective family communication helps adolescents make informed choices and avoid risks, fostering responsible new media use. Parents should model wise media use, encouraging critical skills for interacting positively with media. Families must adapt to the influence of new media by facilitating open communication and providing a supportive environment. This proactive approach ensures adolescents develop positively amid the growing digital influence, balancing freedom and guidance effectively.

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