**DeeDee Global and MTN Ghana Foundation present**

**“A Thousand Minds Connect”**

Zoom conference by Students and for Students

Theme: **“Mitigating addiction to electronic media and staying alert on cyber-crime.”**

**Date: Thursday, 1st April 2021**

**Time: 10am – 12noon**

**Venue: Virtual**



**Discussants – Top 5 winners of ISPSC 2020**

HOST - Desiree Nhyira Hayfron (Best Orator 2020) of Achimota School

D1. Ekow Nhyiraba Awotwe - Mfantsipm School

D2. Asante Enoch Kwakye - Pope John SHS and Junior Seminary

D3. Antwi Elsam Kwodwo Adu - Opuku Ware School

D4. Angela Dzifa Martins - Sunyani Senior High School

**GUEST SPEAKERS:**

**Audrey Mnisi Mireku**

**Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) lead - National Cyber Security Centre.**

**Afia Darko Boateng**

**Manager, Capacity Building and Awareness Creation - National Cyber-Security Centre**

**Nortey Dua**

**Clinical Psychologist and Counsellor**

**Host: Ultimate Health on JoyFM**

**SPECIAL GUEST:**

**Hon. Dr. Yaw Osei Adutwum**

**Minister of Education**

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# Overview

Education involves the communication of systematic instruction to facilitate the acquisition of knowledge, skills, values, morals, beliefs, and habits. Educational methods have consequently evolved in tandem to the developments in mass communication, stretching from prehistoric forms of art and writing to the invention of Gutenberg’s printing press in 1455; the invention of radio by Marconi in 1895; television by John Logie Baird in 1925; and finally, to the internet (the World Wide Web) by Tim Berners Lee in 1990.

The numbers reached by each of these art forms and technologies have steadily grown from a handful, to hundreds, thousands and even millions via newspapers, radio and TV. But now, through the medium of the internet, the audience is virtually limitless and certainly in the billions, with an estimated 4 billion having access to the World Wide Web in 2018.

It is increasingly recognized by researchers, governments and educators around the world that ICT presents many opportunities for teaching and learning. The Ghana Government through the Ministry of Education in 2019 introduced a new curriculum enhancing activity and research-based learning among pupils and students. This new initiative introduces children as early as grade two to online research. The outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic also heightened children’s acquisition or access to electronic media as life moved into virtual stream.

A not so obvious but subtle threat that is yet to engage the attention of policy makers is addiction to electronic media and its related threat of cybercrime. Cyber crime is criminal activity (such as fraud, theft, virtual kidnapping or distribution of child pornography) committed using a computer to illegally access, transmit, or manipulate data and computer resources.

How have these children adapted to this new lifestyle especially regarding the forms of obscene materials, accessibility to computer games and other harmful resources online? What impact is electronic media having on adolescents of today and what’s the implications for parents?

# Objective and Target

This zoom conference dubbed “A thousand minds connect” is a virtual conference hosted by students and for students targeted at accommodating at least a thousand students on one platform to discuss and learn about the science behind addiction to electronic media and cyber crime and how to mitigate it.

# Time

This two-hour conference comes off on Tuesday April 1st, 2021 from 10am – 12noon.

Free Data will be provided for participation to this conference.

# Discussants

The winner of the Inter-School Public Speaking Competition (ISPSC) organised by DeeDee Global in 2020 for students in Senior High Schools along with the other top four winners will engage our Guest Speakers on the conference theme. They will leverage their experience and aptitude gained in the competition to set the tone for the conference and contextualize the issues for the benefit of their colleagues and other participants to gain and also make meaningful contributions. These students are encouraged to use their speaking to influence their society, nation and the world at large.

The discussants for this conference are the top five winners of ISPSC 2020; namely

* Desiree Nhyira Hayfron (Best Orator 2020) of Achimota School – [HOST]
* Ekow Nhyiraba Awotwe of Mfantsipm School,
* Asante Enoch Kwakye of Pope John Senior High and Junior Seminary,
* Antwi Elsam Kwodwo Adu of Opuku Ware School and last but not least
* Angela Dzifa Martins of Sunyani Senior High School.

These ardent speakers will engage their colleagues on the topical issue of electronic media addiction and staying alert on cybercrime.

# First Guest Speaker

To further enrich the conversation our Guest Speaker Madam Audrey Mnisi Mireku, Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) lead at National Cyber Security Centre will take students through titbits on Cyber Crime.

# Second Guest Speaker

Our second Guest Speaker, Madam Afia Darko Boateng, Capacity Building and Awareness Creation Manager at National Cyber Security Centre will share on what students should look out for in staying alert on Cyber Crime.

# Third Guest Speaker

Nortey Dua, a Clinical Psychologist and a Counsellor will throw more light on the science behind addictions to electronic media and how to control it especially at the early stages and how to fight addictions in general.

# Special Guest

Our Special Guest Hon. Yaw Osei Adutwum, Minister of Education will share with students GES policy on electronic media and its usage in schools.

# Expected Outcome (Survey)

In order to ascertain the scientific impact of electronic media on school children, a survey will be conducted as part of the conference. Findings will be submitted to the Ministry of Education to assist in management decisions on the subject matter.