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Drafting Methods

In order to collect data regarding whether or not social media environments have a more positive or negative effect on romantic relationships I decided to conduct a survey. I posted a survey on my facebook and multiple UCF facebook pages, hoping for at least 50 participants. In the end, I had sixteen participants, a large portion of them from my university and a few from out of the state, however all of the participants were young adults. My participants were chosen based on their willingness to participate in my study and under the criteria that they were a young adult, owned a social media account, and were involved in a romantic relationship.

In my survey I asked questions regarding their relationship, and how it is affected by social networks, each question asking for a number ranging from 1 to 5. One represented a very negative influence on your relationship, five being a very positive influence. For example, one question asked was “Does the ability to have your significant other's extended family view your social media page have a more positive or negative influence on your relationship on a scale from 1-5 ” Next, I broke up the questions into four sections that according to my research were the biggest factors of a relationship affected by social media. In each section there were five questions asked, for a total of twenty questions. The sections were as follows, forming relationships, relationship maintenance, family support, and removing barriers. These type of

questions were important because they allowed me to collect quantitative data in relation to my research, and that data permitted me to make conclusions regarding the positive or negative effects of social media. By conducting this study, I wanted to find out if social media, overall, had a more positive or more negative effect on romantic relationships. After conducting my survey, I felt that I still lacked sufficient evidence to truly state whether it is a positive or negative influence. I then conducted two separate interviews with two participants from my survey. The questions for my interview were based off the results from my survey, which is discussed more thoroughly in the results section.