

## **ABSTRACT**

This study purposely examines adolescents' attitudes towards romantic relationships online which, normally, are perceived as a cause of inappropriate behavior or crime. The study focused on five attributes of text-based cyber love which are existence, trustfulness, safety, interpersonal relationship support, and potentiality to transform to offline relationship. The finding of 250 questionnaires completed by young people aged 15-24 years, living in Bangkok, reveals that adolescents were familiar with and neutral about cyber love overall. However, when considering the attitudes part by part, trustfulness and safety of cyber love was pessimistically perceived.

Moreover, the results of this research also show that Thai adolescents were Internet oriented. They spent a lot of time using the Internet to chat, search for information, and send or receive e-mail. Online intimate relationships can be formed rapidly and consistently among this group. The majority of adolescents who had experienced cyber love already had had a face-to-face meeting with their cyber mate, but their fondness and frequency of Internet contact did not change after meeting. The percentage of young respondents who intended to develop online intimacy to offline love was not high as well.

The cause of negative attitudes, as impacted by the Internet characteristics and limitation, are discussed.