



# Social Media and Covid-19



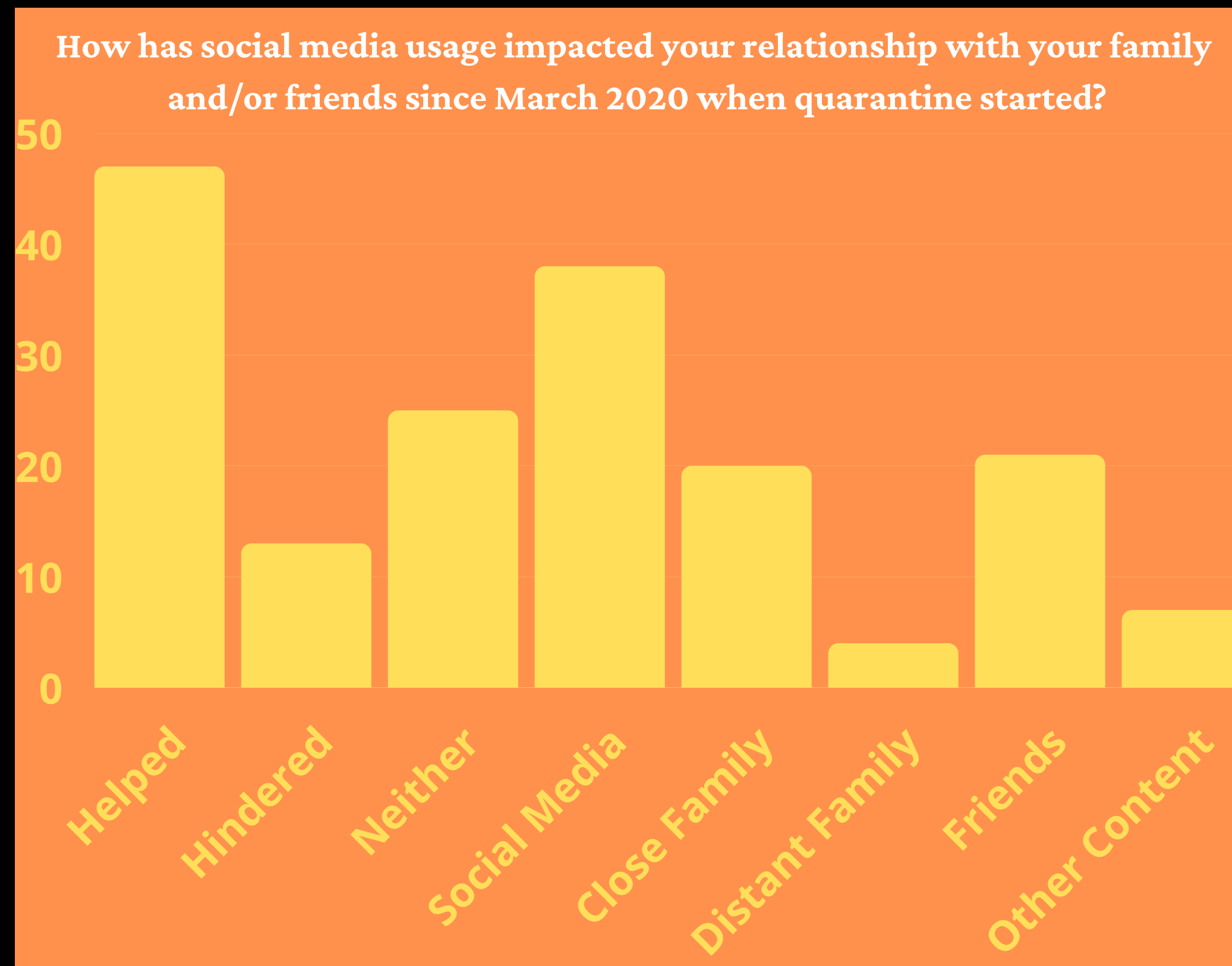
## Abstract

In a 2019 statistica.com survey, it was reported that 90% of 18 to 29-year-olds use social networks. Younger generations use social media as their main form of communication; when a worldwide pandemic hit in March of 2020, it seemed inevitable that there would be an increase or change in social media use during quarantine. This can be attributed to the lack of in-person interaction with people outside of an individuals immediate household. The purpose of this study was to examine the impact of social media use on family and friend relationships since March of 2020.

## Methods

We decided to research the impact of social media during COVID-19 since March 2020. To study this topic, we created a survey consisting of seven questions. The questions asked the participant about gender, school year, impact of social media, amount of time spent on social media, relationship with friends/family through social media, and time spent away from social media while with friends/family. Each of the questions were put on a Likert scale, with the exception of the last question, which was open-ended. We administered this survey to 81 of our classmates in our Development of Human Relationships class through a Google Form.

## Results



"I feel it hindered my relationships because I would get so bored during quarantine all I would do was use screen time to check socials. So now I have to remind myself when I am with family or friends to put my phone down and just enjoy the time with them."

"Social media has helped me to stay more connected with my family and friends. Many of my college friends live very far away from me so I did not see them over quarantine. Through Facetime, texting, and Snapchat I was able to still stay close with them."

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## Conclusion

We found that a majority of people used social media in order to keep themselves in the loop with their family and friends that they weren't able to see during the quarantine period. Additionally, we saw that social media apps and electronic communication was really effective for most people to stay connected. However, we did receive a number of responses from students that reported that social media made things more difficult for them and sometimes made them feel even lonelier than they were already feeling. With these results, we will take the next steps to make people aware of this information. This information may allow for others to use social media in a more productive way.

Do you feel that social media use has impacted your family and friend relationships since March 2020 when quarantine started?

