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Digital Education: Opportunity or Source of Inequality? The Experience of Students at Bursa Technical University

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Abstract

New developments in information and communication technologies have revolutionized social institutions, such as education. Digital education, which has arisen through the incorporation of the Internet and digital technology into learning, promises equal educational opportunities. Nevertheless, it also carries the risk of digital inequality. The present research aims to reveal the experiences, attitudes, and perceptions of students at Bursa Technical University regarding the digitalization of education to determine whether digital education is an opportunity or a sphere of inequality in society. Socio-economic and demographic factors such as gender, income level, and location are taken into account in the study as possible determinants of digital education experience. Using a quantitative method, data was collected from 345 students using a Google Forms survey and was interpreted through descriptive analysis. Findings indicate that digital education has not yet been able to provide the necessary conditions to achieve the equal opportunities it claims to offer. The study aims to raise awareness about digital inequality and to make a contribution to the field by providing a basis for generating concrete recommendations for both improving digital education policies at universities and reducing inequalities of opportunity.

Keywords

Digital Education, Digital Transformation, Equal Opportunities in Education, Inequality, Digital Divide

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