


INTERNET AND PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY: AN APPROACH TO CAREGIVERS' CONCERNS, PREVENTION STRATEGIES AND TRAINING NEEDS

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1 INTRODUCTION

From being disabled persons, people with intellectual disabilities (ID) have now become citizens with full rights. From exclusion to integration and from there a step forward towards **INCLUSION**: the strategy to increase the participation of these people in school and community.

➡ Access to the Internet for people with ID has several **BENEFITS**:

- Learning
- Social interaction with other people
- Participation in mutual support groups

➡ **POTENTIAL RISKS**:

- Cyberbullying
- Giving too much personal information
- Accessing misleading advertising.


GOAL (CAREGIVERS)


➡ To what extent do they perceive the **internet to be safe**?

➡ What are the **main concerns** about the use of the Internet by people with ID?

➡ What strategies do they use to prevent the use of the Internet?

➡ To what extent do they feel prepared to ensure security on the Internet? Moreover, what sources of information and training do they use to learn more about safety on the Internet?





2 METHODOLOGY

Non-experimental, quantitative study through a survey design.

➡ **PARTICIPANTS**

44	➡ 20	RELATIVES
18	➡ 24	PROFESSIONALS

18 42% 25 58%

LIMITS


- The size of the sample
- Participants belong to the same organization

Results can not be generalized

➡ **TOOLS**

QUESTIONNAIRE: Use, risks and safety of people with ID on the Internet.

- (a) Socio-demographic data
- (b) Safety on the Internet
- (c) Internet risks and concerns for people with ID
- (d) Preventions strategies
- (e) Training and information about safety on the Internet



3 OUTCOMES

➡ **CAREGIVERS PERCEPTION OF INTERNET SECURITY**

66%	The Internet is safe for adults without ID	91%	The Internet is not safe for adults with ID
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➡ **CAREGIVERS' CONCERNS ABOUT THE USE OF THE INTERNET BY PEOPLE WITH ID**

66%	The use of personal information without consent	61%	Receiving sexual pictures or videos that they do not want to see.
59%	Receiving threats	50%	Being insulted

➡ **USE OF PREVENTION STRATEGIES BY THE CAREGIVERS**


84%	Talking about what they do on the Internet	72%	Talking about the risks of chatting or flirting online with strangers
69%	Warning about misleading advertising	62%	Talking with them about identity and the risks of data theft.

➡ **INTERNET SECURITY INFORMATION AND TRAINING**

43%	Trained to prevent problems	48%	Trained to deal with and to solve problems.
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The source of information that they had about Internet security

55%	Media	37%	Relatives or friends	
54%	Administration must give information about safety on the Internet			



4 CONCLUSIONS

➡ **CAREGIVERS**

The Internet is less safe for people with ID and for children.

➡ **CONCERNS** (about people with ID):

- That personal information will fall into the hands of unauthorized people
- That they may be asked to send information or pictures.
- Harassment
- Exposure to inappropriate sexual content
- Threats

➡ They must protect them but at the same time encourage their independence and self-determination **(THE BENEFITS OUTWEIGH THE DISADVANTAGES)**.

➡ **TO AVOID RISKS** (for people with ID):

- Talking about their activities on the Internet
- To be aware of certain behaviours (chatting, flirting, misleading advertising and identity and data theft).

More than half of the participants do not feel ready to prevent or to deal with the problems that people with ID can experience on the Internet.

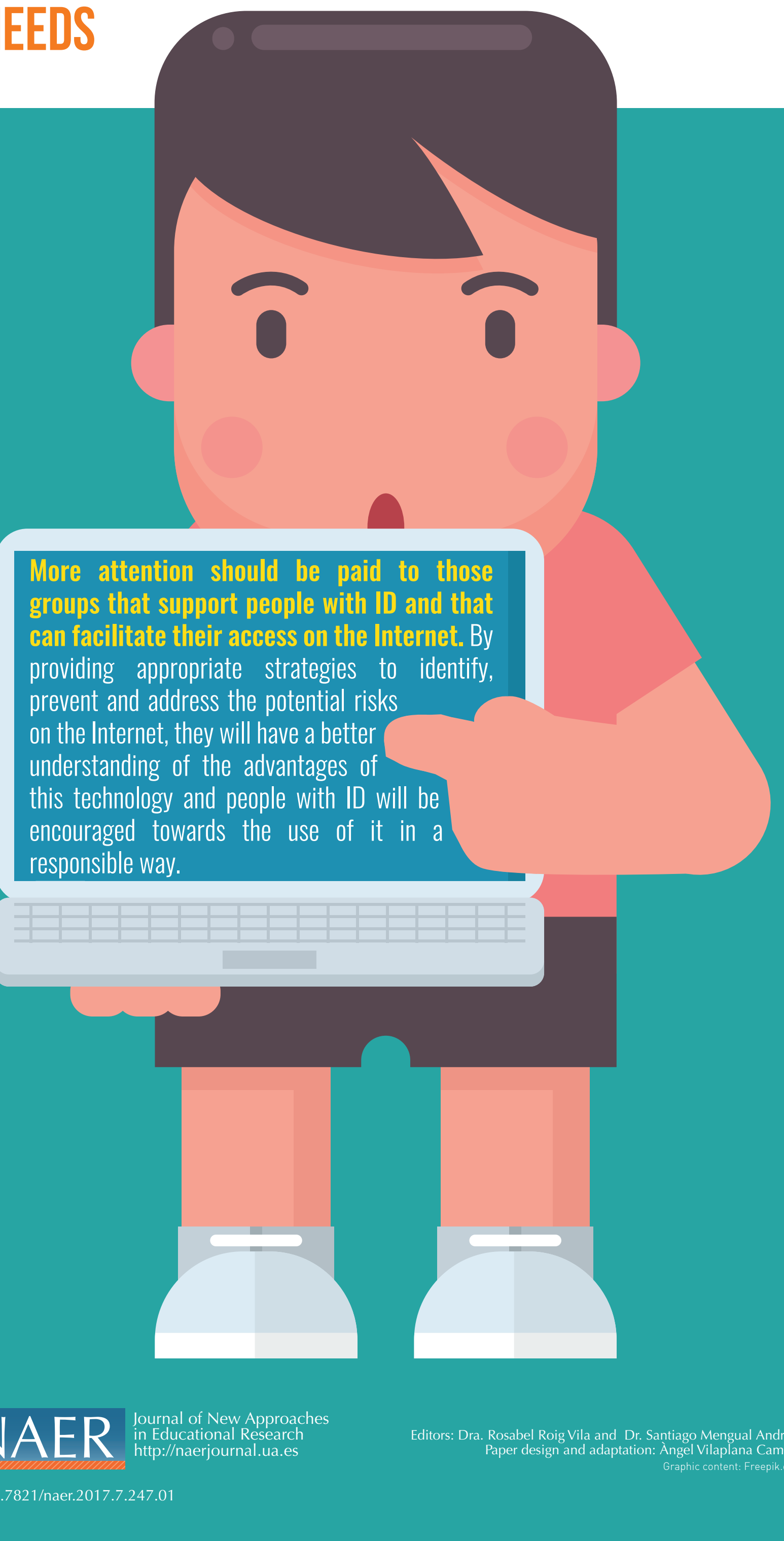
➡ **INFORMATION ABOUT SECURITY ON THE INTERNET**

- Media
- Friends and family

They prefer formal training by the Administration

➡ **CONCERN ABOUT RISKS ON THE INTERNET**

Professionals more than family members



More attention should be paid to those groups that support people with ID and that can facilitate their access on the Internet. By providing appropriate strategies to identify, prevent and address the potential risks on the Internet, they will have a better understanding of the advantages of this technology and people with ID will be encouraged towards the use of it in a responsible way.

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