

Abstract

The existence of a smartphone has a tremendous impact. In various functions, the emergence of the internet has made this smartphone as needs to facilitate communication. It is no longer makes phone just a tool to send calls, short message, or taking pictures. It also includes as device for surfing in cyberspace. Smartphone becomes a communication tool that widely used by many people, no exception for kids with hearing disabilities. A hearing disability that may range in severity from mild to profound it includes the subsets of deaf and hard of hearing. A deaf person in one whose hearing disability precludes successful processing of linguistic information through audition, with or without a hearing aid. They used smartphone as a tool to help them communicate with others.

This research method is using a qualitative research method with phenomenological approach. Informants in this study were 4 students of Special School Cicendo Bandung (SLB-B Negeri Cicendo Bandung) who use smartphone. This study aims to determine the motive, knowledge and understanding of smartphone and how far the use of smartphone by kids with hearing disabilities. Data was collected through observation, interviews and documentation. Data analysis techniques applied in this research were Miles and Huberman model, with data reduction activity, data presentation and conclusion drawing. These observation and interview to four informants conducted to informants has arrived to the conclusion that the motive behind the use of smartphone are because they consist of motifs. The first is past motive (Because motive), to facilitates communication with parents, teachers and friends. And to make friends, either with their groups or normal people. while the motive for (in order to motives), to facilitate communication and also to maintaining friendship. Experience of smartphone for school activities, and to fulfill their personal needs. Such as relieve boredom, looking for information, the existence of self, learn new things and hobbies.

Keywords: *meaning, smartphone, phenomenology, deaf.*