the question

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What do you think of what we have seen in recent times of young men hanging around internet cafes and the evil things that go on in them? What about so called chat rooms and wasting time in them?.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

It is not permissible for a person to prevent himself or others from remembering Allaah. Allaah says (interpretation of the meaning):

"And of mankind is he who purchases idle talks (i.e. music, singing) to mislead (men) from the path of Allaah"

[Luqmaan 31:6]

It is not permissible to live in places of corruption because of the spiritual harm that may affect his religious commitment.

Going to internet cafes is one of the things that divert people from the path of Allaah and make it easy to access pornographic websites. Talking to women damages religious commitment and morals, even though some of them claim to be going to these cafes for good purposes. Allaah knows who is doing evil and who is doing good, for He has insight into all His slaves.