

# Evolving disadvantages



The world is constantly evolving and changing, different chapters in the world's history brings on a new set of inventions, subsequent consequences and difficulties. From the machine age of the sass's, to the post war era and now the information age, each chapter creates a new set of challenges to overcome. Some technology advances have affected entire countries, for instance, recent technological developments including the, cellular phone and the internet has broken the barriers of communication.

Despite the fact that technology aids in many aspects of everyday life, there are many disadvantages that stems from the use of technology available in this ever-evolving world, such as its environmental impact, education implication, difficulties in the workplace and the privacy issues that comes along with using technology. To begin, certain technologies and the production of these types of technologies has a large impact on the environment. Consequently, ones technological choices, such as the products one chooses to use, has unpredictable consequences on human health and the vitality of the environment.

Firstly, the creation of a piece of technology begins when extracting the material components needed for the product. Each step of the extraction process emits harmful greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere which can also be related to global warming (Rose 8). During the production stage, countless litters of water and kilowatts of energy is used (8). Also, more greenhouse gases are emitted along with the subsequent water and solid waste 2 that has been produced (8). A key factor in environment deterioration is the use of mercury in different technology products.

There is an apparent risk for the health ND vitality of not only the environment itself, but the other living organisms living in those environments, including humans. To exemplify, a standard CFML (compact fluorescent lamp) bulb is the most popular light bulb in households around the world, however, it is one of the worst technological devices that emits mercury into its environment (Rose 5). The World Health Organization affirms that "Mercury is considered as one of the top 10 chemicals or group of chemicals of major public health concern" ("Mercury and Health").

It is considered to be highly dangerous as a result of contaminated food sources. Fish are at the most risk of becoming infected with mercury poisoning. Once poisoned, significant levels of mercury can live in the tissue for their life duration (Rose 34). Also, mammals and bird can also contract mercury poisoning, resulting in adverse effects such as organ damage, immune deficiencies and reproductive problems (34). Consequently humans can also contract this type of poisoning because "People are mainly exposed to mercury when they eat animal meat, fish and shellfish that contain the compound" ("Mercury and Health").

Once human poisoning has occurred, it can cause extreme damage to the dinned, liver and central nervous system, or in pregnant patients, or developmental deficiencies in an unborn child of a pregnant patient (Rose 34). While some technological choices have a positive impact on how some live their day to day lives, unthinkable consequences may be inflicted on the environment, and to those who live in it. However, even more setbacks may occur in the field of education. Additionally, the classroom setting has been reengineering to use the power of computers and other devices.

However the use of all this technology can prove to be a hassle in some cases both within the classroom and outside the classroom. As technology developed rapidly in the 1980's, "assisted learning through the computer became an influential teaching tool in the learning of a second language" (Alai, Kristin 1). Though technology can be used to aid teaching, there are many drawbacks to integrating technology into the everyday classroom. When a computer becomes a basic requirement to fulfill schoolwork for students, some may not be able to afford the required tools for success (Alai, Kristin 3).

Secondly, if students had access to a computer, they would have to possess enough skill to perform the task. "The benefits of computer technology for those students who are not familiar with computers are non-existent" (Robbery, 2003). Additionally, when learning through digital aids, technology can only help a student with certain elements. For example, when a student is learning a second language through the use of computers and digital aids, the software can only help with the reading, listening and writing skills.

Learning a language involves the understanding of reading, listening and writing but also the pronunciation of words, its syntax and the usage of the correct words in certain sentences (Alai, Kristin 3). Lastly, those who try to teach themselves a second language through a software such as Rosetta Stone, these types of software cannot answer questions as immediate as human teachers can (3). Because of their artificial intelligence, the software only has a certain degree of knowledge (3).

Though technology aids with certain types of learning, there are many setbacks that occur in the education sector when using technology however, many more setbacks occur in the workplace with the distractions that can be resulted from use of technology. Moreover, the modern workday has led to the overall deterioration of focus within the aerospace. Focus in the workplace has decreased steadily over the last decade because of 4 computers, cellular devices and tablets that workers have access to at work (Silverman).

Workers are so engaged with their screens and devices that they sometimes tune out the face to face interaction that previous generations had to have endured (Ingram). While technology aids with productivity in the workplace it also disrupts the transition from work-time to off-time (Casey). To exemplify, for those who work from home, it is harder to tell when the work day actually finishes, seeing that technically they never leave the office. Those who work from home find that working at night after dinner is also productive.

However for the human brain and human stress levels, the workload one puts on themselves is significantly higher than those who work in an out-of-house office and only during payable hours (Silverman). The study Information and Communication Technology, Work, and Family focuses on technology and the increase workload and stress load that are facing workers. It acknowledges that technological resources such as computers, emails and cellophanes result in being more effective at work, however it also increases the Rockford by their superiors.

The study concluded that 83% of workers surveyed believe that the use of technology increases productivity, however 53% of workers surveyed described greater stress levels at work because of the technology they use. Lucy Robertson, Director of Learning and Organizational at Ebay. Says that " 'it is an epidemic to get your work done on a daily basis, with all of these things (distractions and projects) coming at you' ". This has a direct correlation into the disadvantages of technology because without technology, such distractions and the increase in Rockford would not be a factor.

Overall, mobile devices and social media can produce a lot of distractions for workers in the workplace and trying to resist the temptation proves to be difficult (Ingram). Once distracted, Dry. Gloria Marks, professor at the University of California says that " 'it can take some 23 minutes for a 5 worker to return to the original task' ". In retrospect, the increase in workload for workers proves to be very difficult for many, and with the addition of workplace distractions causes the productivity of each worker to decrease.

Therefore the steadiness of technology are clear for the workplace and even more clear for internet users who face privacy issues. Lastly, the largest innovation in technology since the ass's has been the invention of the internet. However, only in the past few years has the internet begun to be a vast place of networking and knowledge, for instance, uploading videos, researching, booking flights, buying clothes and so much more. One may think the internet has no faults, however there are many issues with internet that deal with personal safety and security.

It is believed that over 6% of internet users have fell victim to some sort of internet fraud scheme, whether it be monetary, identity or virus based, and over 21% of internet users have had an account taken over by someone without permission (Skinned). With internet technologies rapidly changing, there are not many regulations in place that restricts third parties from accessing to more information posted online. It is now a click of a button to find someone social media post, or even a users phone number and street address on the internet.

Virtually every activity people perform throughout the day as some relation to a computer, cellophane or table, companies and expert hackers can track ones Mortal" movement by watching their data activity, which could be construed as a breach in privacy (Riffraff). Data activity is a users permanent browsing history that saves to the internet, it can be easily collected and shared to other people, companies and agencies either knowingly or even unknowingly.

The legal way companies can access, collect and share information is when the user of the internet agrees to the terms and conditions of use or through the companies privacy policy (Riffraff). Three major privacy violations that are legal 6 that companies are performing are the result of internet users not reading the terms and conditions of use. Firstly, internet cookies are software agents that can track someone browsing habits and personal data. It learns who personal information about the user and their browsing habits (" HTTP State Management Mechanism"), as well as " they are totally invisible to the user" (Riffraff).

Once hacked, it is very easy for hackers to obtain a users private information, which can include passwords, addresses, credit card numbers and many other private pieces of information (Riffraff). In addition, using cloud based services opens up the users private life to not only the company holding the data but to government agencies as well. Once the document has been stored in the "Mortal cloud", the document is no longer the sole property of the users, it is now considered to be an asset of the company (Riffraff).

To illustrate, Google and their cloud based storage site GMail has contracts with government agencies around the world to reveal names and personal information about users if and when needed (Riffraff). In most cases this would be a breach in the users private life, however because the user has agreed to the terms and conditions that GMail has provided, therefore the user has formally agreed to the doings of the company. Lastly, now with social media offering location service, it is extremely difficult for one to wander around without someone knowing their exact location (Riffraff).

Being able to keep tabs on others is a total misuse of the internet and is a prime example, along with many others, of the many reasons why technological innovations prove to have many disadvantages. Without a doubt, the privacy issues that stem from the use of the internet violates one of the main human rights, and instead of being able to combat this, the user has legally given consent to companies to perform these acts. In conclusion, as the society evolves, technology evolves with the society to meet their standards and needs to aid in everyday life.



However, the products used by so many also have many disadvantages that can cause many problems to the user. Firstly, each product used has an impact on the environment, each emitting greenhouse gases to the atmosphere, consequently has an impact on the health of the wildlife ND as a result affects the health of humans as well. Secondly, in the education sector, technology is very useful, however integrating it into everyday teaching styles can be very strenuous on students and teachers who do not know how to use them and has also been proven to be very costly.

Also, the distractions imposed on users, especially workers, have a large impact on productivity and stress levels. However, stress levels has also been contributed to the higher workload given to workers because of the capabilities of the technologies. Lastly, privacy issues have been a main concern for many individuals, with the percentage rates of fraud and hacking rising, users continually agree to the terms and conditions of sites they enter without properly paying attention to the intricate terms and conditions of usage.

As a result, private information, browsing history and user locations can be collected and shared. With the advances in technology, users sometimes forget about the negative ways technology can affect their lives, their productivity at their work, their success at school, their overall health in long term. As an entire society, users of technology just understand the disadvantages of technology and should act cautiously when using technology.