

Viral spread of technology

Technology



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Since you woke up this morning odds are you: made a phone call, sent a text message went on the computer, or passed a television. So what is the big idea about all those things? We live in a society surrounded by advanced technology that is integrated into our everyday life, it has almost become unavoidable. Although from the surface, all these electronic devices that we are constantly dependent on seem to be beneficial for simplicity of life, they are also becoming a serious crutch leading to a negative impact on upcoming generations.

Over the past decade, technology has changed the world more than ever before. With ever changing technology and media, the world seems to move at a quicker pace. The question is, will it ever slow down? This powerful tool of technology creates social problems within our society. Deviance is created through the dangerous world creates through social media over the web, as is over-reliance a social problem in result to society's penchant towards technology.

Technology can very well be helpful to society, but as an upcoming generation it is vital to distinguish the fine line between using it as a crutch and using it for proactive purposes to avoid serious effects to social behavior. Researchers and social critics have been debating whether technology has had a positive or negative impact on social relationships and community involvement for years. American Psychological Association conducted research to thoroughly examine the social and psychological impact of the Internet on 169 people in 73 households during their first one to two years online.

The data collected proved that the greater time spent on the internet the poorer the social communication skills and less community involvement. (Karat, par. L). During the short time span of one to two years a great decline in involvement there is no wonder how great the magnitude of impact will be after decades of attachment to the internet. Reliance on the internet pulls individuals away from reality and into an artificial world that they do not realize they are engulfed in. If technology is creating another world for individuals to escape to, it is affecting their development in the reality.

New York Times conducted a study on relationships in children to see how dependent the upcoming generation truly is on technology. " Pew Research Center found that half of American teenagers -? fined in the study as ages 12 through 17 -? send 50 or more text messages a day and that one third send more than 100 a day. Two thirds of the testers surveyed by the center's Internet and American Life Project said they were more likely to use their cell phones to text friends than to call them.

Fifty-four percent said they text their friends once a day, but only 33 percent said they talk to their friends face-to-face on a daily basis. " It is shocking to see these statistics and take into consideration that these are young teenagers. Teenage years are important in developing relationships and learning owe society truly works. If children are glued to their phones meeting people through various forms of social media, the entire complex of building and developing relationships falls apart. CITE Technology has also had a serious impact on intellectual development.

Children are showing a steady decrease in grammar and spelling skills as they are exposed to technology at a younger age. Children are depending on spell check and other sources to correct their work. The idea of looking words up in a dictionary, or proofreading for spelling have been replaced with relying on computer capabilities. The slow but evident loss of skills is present throughout grade school and college. Grammar was instilled into education during the previous generations, it how now become an accessory to writing.

It is a shame to see upcoming generations' skill set decline so rapidly from a source that is also so beneficial. The education system is allowing this decrease to occur without making an attempt to develop the same skills in children as previous decades did. Augusta Miter, professor of educational technology at Newcastle University, claimed "... In today's technologically-advanced world that there was no place for teaching grammar or peeling as the technology would correct it for us," (Detection par 1).

This argument flops due to one major fundamental reason, it requires students to have previously developed high standards in literacy. It is unethical to rely on a source of technology to teach generations vital English skills that they will encounter for the rest of their lives. This concept also leaves out a percentage of students that are often forgotten; those without access to technology. Although the hype seems to revolve around adolescents without access to technology, there is a large percentage of children thou access to technology either due to financial reasons or parental discretion on technology.

Students that do not have the former foundation of education on grammar and spelling cannot properly develop the skill set necessary for the real world. An author compared this circumstance to handing a student a dictionary and telling them to find out how to spell a word. The student must have a rough idea of how to spell the word or the first few letters in order to discover the correct spelling. This level of knowledge is necessary to completely check the spelling, the same recess works for spell check on a computer. I have watched students type work on to a word processing document with a spell checker and the spelling is so inaccurate that it doesn't appear as a correction or they then select the wrong word from the list of corrections. Plus, it takes them twice as long to correct their work as if they had been taught spellings. Teaching students to rely on technology for spelling is not the way forward, " (Detection par 7). BLOCK QUOTE Literacy must be absorbed through English teachers building a foundation and technology reinforcing and supporting the English skills that individuals are faced with every day.