

Is technology a step forward or a step back?

Technology



In looking at this in more detail, there seems to be the most progress in the area of gadgets. For example, in the production of phones, it is here today, out of style tomorrow. We all know a friend who buys the latest phone and two months later sells it to buy a newer version. The same goes for gaming consoles, computers and appliances among other things. The latest version is quickly replaced by a new and improved one, although these are only a few examples they all have one purpose- making our lives easier.

We no longer have to reheat food on a stove, we have microwaves and we do not have to look through an encyclopedia, we have Google. Even in writing this piece, the use of technology- the computer, the flash drive and the printer- has made this project a lot easier. Now, some may call this ease of life, progress, as it helps to lessen the stresses of everyday living. It is the age of multitasking where our parents are working- sometimes more than one job- they are taking care of the homes and the children and socializing with their friends.

These technological gadgets help to make tasks easier by reducing the amount of time each one takes, making technology an asset to our lives. However, it is also believed that this effortless nature causes us, the youth to be lazy. They believe the activities that were done in the past, like taking out the goats before school, is what made them strong physically, mentally and spiritually and moving towards a more technological era is making us, the future generation, lazy, and so we are not actually progressing, but regressing. We can also see advancements in the field of education and information.

Locally, for example, our libraries have been upgrade, with internet access and the use of plastic identification cards. The protective services now have the use of things like security cameras and intra-web connection which makes sharing and receiving information a to easier. And access to that information has also grown. With the introduction of the World Wide Web anything you want to know you can find the answer- from how to fix your phone, to who is leading in the Primer League, to information on your favorite artiste. It is all there.

It has also been reported, that children today prefer to look up information on the internet, rather than ask their parents, face to face. This advancement in technology is an advantage, as it is easier now to get accurate, current information in an instant. We can now get true information on even taboo objects that in the past were avoided or outdated, allowing us, the youth, to make more educated decisions. This is a big step forward. The down side to this though, is that all the information is easily accessible and is not always age restricted.

So where our grandparents would give age appropriate advice, the internet does not have this discretion. The easy access of information means that there is a lot of inappropriate information available to minors such as pornography. In addition to this, a lot of information out there is not actually true. In conclusion, technology is everywhere- from the microphone I am using right now, o the vehicles we will be going home in, to the food we eat. It cannot be avoided.

Due to time restrictions, we were only able to look at technology on personal, information, and the social levels and we can see that there are both negatives and positives in each. The real question then arises; does the advancement of technology affect you positively or negatively? Are you using these to your advantage or are you abusing them? I will now end with a quote by motivational speaker Les Brown " Don't let the negativity given to you by the world disembowel you, instead give to yourself that which empowers you.