Halle Kenty

November 14, 2020

CO210-VR03

CIT Final Draft

The Impact of Technology on Today’s Society

I remember reading a quote where the famous writer Douglas Adams said, “first we thought the PC was a calculator. Then we found out how to turn numbers into letters with ASCII – and we thought it was a typewriter. Then we discovered graphics, and we thought it was a television. With the World Wide Web, we’ve realized it’s a brochure.” What was interesting about this quote was that it gave me a general perspective on how much technology has evolved and adapted to fit the basic needs of humans. Humans have reached a milestone in the race for newer models of technology to be created. It is a notable necessity in today’s society which is why a majority of the world’s population depends on it. But even though the impact of technology has its advantages that prove to be beneficial, there are several disadvantages that follow and can be observed to have had an impact in the community.

Technology has evolved over the years and has adapted to fit the needs and desires of the twenty-first century. We as humans rely on technology to complete everyday tasks, for example: designing houses with computers and finishing homework via WI-FI. According to a survey that we had conducted on 25 people in the community, 96 percent of respondents said that they rely on technology often. This day and age allows humans to have the capability to use certain technologies for their own liking. Take social media for example: people have the ability to follow up on their peer’s social lives and to connect with people world-wide as they please. As stated in our results, 84 percent of respondents say that they often use social media every day. In addition, People have the advantage to interact with peers from far distances and keep up with daily shenanigans. Although there are many advantages, I believe the disadvantages have a far greater impact on people in the community.

Several disadvantages of technology are based on the fact that technology can be distracting, environmentally and culturally influential, and more. Certain inventions of technology can sway people to become attached. Take gamers for example, in this society, modern gamers can make profits by posting their gaming videos on YouTube and although this may be an easy life style, imagine how attached the individual may be; they may be susceptible to staying indoors and may barely go out because their whole lives profit off the media. According to our data, one respondent had said “you do not get to realize the world around, like nature itself and the environment,” another respondent said “It takes up all of our time.” In addition, technology is distracting in different sorts of environments such as: driving, in the classrooms, or at work. “Distracted drivers tend to compensate both for mobile phone and driving tasks” (Oviedo, 2016).

Other major disadvantages revolve around lack of privacy or security amongst individuals. People who rely on social media for their everyday use, often post their daily activities, location, and lifestyle on social media for everyone to see. Because their lifestyle is so public, it is estimated to be very easy to track an individual’s schedule. “Data security concerns posed by advances in technology and the manner in which consumers, businesses and other organizations use that technology will be a significant concern in the year ahead” (“10 Technology”). A possible reason could be the fact that human beings have been so involved with technology over the years that they have learned to daringly maneuver their way into other people’s privacy by hacking. “The World Wide Web of today was not foreseen, and neither was the possibility of misuse of the Internet” (van den Hoven, et al., 2019).

Overall, technology has played a huge role in the adaptation of today’s society. With all these new technological advancements in place, so many things are possible. Yet, the disadvantages remain ever present and poses as an issue. Despite the minor disadvantages, several repercussions like getting into accidents due to mobile distraction or revealing one’s location online because of absent thinking, can actually be harmful to the people of the community. This includes being susceptible to hacking due to the lack of internet security and privacy. Therefore, it is important to be more careful at all times and to be mindful of your surroundings.

Works Cited

Oviedo-Trespalacios, O., Haque, M. M., King, M., & Washington, S. (2016, October 15). *Understanding the impacts of mobile phone distraction on driving performance: A systematic review*. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0968090X16301917>.

van den Hoven, J., Blaauw, M., Pieters, W., & Warnier, M. (2019, October 30). *Privacy and Information Technology*. Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy. <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/it-privacy/>.

Wardynski, D. J. (2019, October 24). *Technology and Society: How Technology Changed Our Lives*. Brainspire.Com. <https://www.brainspire.com/blog/technology-and-society-how-technology-changed-our-lives>

*10 Technology Challenges*. (n.d.) SGR Law. <https://www.sgrlaw.com/ttl-articles/10-technology-challenges/>.