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The Impact of Technology on Communication

Technology has had a huge impact on the way that people communicate with each other. Nowadays, not only can we communicate via phone call and text message, we also use social media apps such as Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, and Twitter. It is stated in the book that since communication through social media is still relatively new, there is not much research on this subject, but one study did show that several of the same people who spend a lot of their time on Facebook, typically are more depressed than people who do not. Something else that's interesting is that in the video, it stated that emojis are almost like a step backward in communication. Instead of communicating our emotions and telling people how we feel, we use emojis which is not good.

Personally, I spend too much time communicating through technology, and not enough time having conversations face to face. I would say I usually spend around 3 hours a day on my phone. A lot of that time is spent on Snapchat, communicating by sending pictures back and forth. This cuts down actual conversing a lot since sometimes the pictures have no captions or words. This is not a good way of communicating, because you do not get to know a person by doing that. If I had to go without communicating via technology for a week, it would cut down my communication tremendously. I would not like it at all because that is how I talk to a lot of my friends. If I didn't see them at work or in class, then we wouldn't be able to communicate at all that week.

I believe that we as a culture are too addicted to technology. It affects us socially as individuals because obviously socializing in person and socializing through a screen are very different. If someone is only used to communicating on the phone, it can be hard for them to try to communicate face to face. Communicating fluently and intelligently takes practice and if it is not practiced regularly, that skill can be lost. I think this is especially true for younger generations. We communicate via electronics the most, so I feel that we have had to communicate face to face the least. This means that we are not the strongest at communication and we will be the ones to teach the future generations, which leads me to believe that it could just get worse.

There are a lot of pros and cons to communication via technology, but I believe that the good outweighs the bad. If we could not communicate electronically, it would be harder for people to talk to people who live far away from them. Being able to keep in touch with long-distance friends and family is definitely a pro. Also being able to get ahold of whoever you need to quickly is very handy in the case of an emergency. If I did not have technology to communicate, I would be forced to have more face-to-face conversations which is good, but I would also lose the ability to do the things mentioned earlier.