EMPOWERMENT THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

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The birth of technology brought conveniences to human activities. It gives people the ability to make their work easier and faster. Today, when everything around us is connected to technology, do we really know the real empowerment that it gives to us? In essence, empowerment is about having or taking a degree of independence.

In addition to this, technology has boons and banes. In this paper, the different aspects of technology reaching people are discussed and were given emphasis.

Digital Divide

A lack of access is believed to be a disadvantage to those on the disadvantaged side because not everyone has access on the computers and the internet.

Internet Addiction or Computer Addiction

Too much online surfing leads to decreased productivity at work and fewer interactions with family members.

The internet has made the world an open enterprise through online shopping, gaming, trading of stocks, gambling and even auctions often leads to overspending and problems at work. Also, too much surfing of porn sites often affects real-life relationships.

It is also good to state that excessive use of social networking sites to create relationships rather than spending time with family or friends may destroy real-life relationships.
Cybercrime

One of the disadvantages of technology is the birth of cybercrime. There is no longer a need for the criminal to be physically present when committing a crime. Computer crimes such as theft, money laundering or fraud, phishing, and hate crimes, such as stalking and bullying are, easier to carry out nowadays because of the internet’s speed, convenience, anonymity and lack of borders.

With all these, we see empowerment as developing personal skills for the wrong reason or purpose. Do we really care enough for the others? Are we tolerant enough of others views and sentiments? Did we really lose our common sense and emotional maturity?

Let us always remember, what Confucius have once said, "I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand." Let us all be responsible enough in handling technology. Empowerment is not synonymous to abuse. Always remember to always think before you click.

Reference:
