TECHNOLOGY AND ITS IMPACT TO CHILD DEVELOPMENT

by

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Twenty-first century is the time of abundancy of technology – it is everywhere. The machines that make our lives easier, the gadgets that we use, those are just some manifestations. It continuously evolves as time goes by, improving everything around us. Thus, becoming an important aspect of our lives.

With the fast-pacing world, it is imperative to cope with such changes happening around us. Technology has played an enormous part in our lives. In transportation, travelling is now with utmost ease and comfort. Going to a certain place doesn’t need to take several months, instead through an airplane, a train; you will be able to reach your destination in just few hours. In communication, distance is no longer a hindrance not to see a loved one living miles away from you – talking face-to-face is possible. With either computer or mobile devices, video calling through Messenger, Skype, Viber and many other applications is now possible regardless of the distance. In our education system, advancement in the teaching-and-learning process has been made paving the way for an enriched generation of people that are globally competitive.

Technology has indeed made living so much easier. But it is both an ally and a rival. If used properly, it can be a great aid to students. In fact, in the advent of the computer and internet, information has been abundant and easy to access. Thus, students no longer need to read tons and tons of books to be able to get the information they need. Moreover, when technology is integrated in the teaching-and-learning process, students became active learners and are therefore engaged in the discussion. It has truly changed how students perceive teaching and learning. But technology is also the reason why students slowly drift away from school and drop-out rates has alarmingly increased. In one of the most authoritative studies, a longitudinal study of 3,000 third-through eighth-graders in Singapore, researchers from Iowa State University and elsewhere found 9
percent of gamers to be “pathological,” meaning that their gaming damaged multiple parts of their lives, including school performance. Though technology has provided us with great assistance, we cannot deny the fact that it became one of our enemies. Our ultimate goal is the holistic development of every student, but with the excessive usage of technology, students tend to neglect their studies and other things. Resulting to a high drop-out rate.

With such advancement happening around us, we cannot totally control everything that our students will do. What we can do is guide them, nourish them and encourage them in the responsible usage of different technological advances – Let us help them befriend these. In doing such, we can hope for a better future for our youngsters today.

References: