

Ebbing sanity :

The fall of humanity, and an analysis of the pervasive psychopathy involved in the modern intrapersonal relationship and how it is exacerbated by technology

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Today, few would argue against the observed fact that as time presses forward it is human technology which will be sure to advance, and with the coming of these advancements, there will be clear and evident changes impressed onto human society. This idea, stated simply, suggests that our technology will grow and society will change so much as time continues to flow. However, even this simple, common sense statement inevitably bring forth a freighting question.

The question being : Is it true that the changes that we make in society lie inherently dependant on the actions stemming from and shaped by the traits of traditional human culture (Which itself can be defined as the expression of human emotions and of humanity), or whether actually, rather frighteningly, the changes taking place in society are marked solely by the progression of technology?

Perhaps this question may not seem as an immediately frightening, however another question must be taken into consideration for the sake of emphasis. If the changes we as humans create in society are simply the adjustments we make in regards to technology, then what room do we leave for the growth of the human culture or for that matter, humanity itself?

Indeed, as one may guess, we are leaving little room, and it seems increasingly to be the face that as technology grows it is our own collective societal will which seems to be placing sanctions on the progression of a culture based on the purity of emotions, idealism and art. More or less leaving society to be strictly defined by the advancement of technology; a continuing advancement whose purpose is fueled not by a means of survival, but rather for the accumulation of capital. This is all made apparent by the current nature of pervasive media, advertising, and the establishment of a popular culture.

It was physicist Albert Einstein who stated publically "*It has become appallingly obvious that our technology has exceeded our humanity.*" However, may I not be misunderstood, humanity and it's culture is not yet dead, simply dying, and yet, not so much as dying, but being replaced by something completely new, something less sentient, and in terms of psychology, sociopathic.

As humans living in society we are all educated and our education essentially consists of being taught to analyze the realm of reality as specific information. Using the skills of analyzation we are then taught, some of us naturally, to systemize data into lists and categories which, using our brains, we will link into a perceived meaning. As we age we are more or less socially coerced into forcing our brains to learn and to derive more and more meaning from our perceived reality.

Henceforth, by compulsive habit alone, humans will learn to systemize more and more aspects of their lives in order to continue to properly function on the level required by the changes of society, changes stemming from the implementation of new technology.

Still the analyzation, systemization, and interpretation of data received by the senses and processed by the mind is only one aspect of the purpose of the human brain;

the other purpose is for the brain to experience emotions, for it is the experiencing of emotions which define humanity, culture and art. However, a typical brain, after being constantly immersed in a three dimensional environment where technology and information run rampant, will eventually learn to systemize emotions as well.

According to psychology, the act of systemizing emotions is known as one of the leading causes for a brain's personality to begin exhibiting sociopathic tendencies.

A person who systemizes emotions is one who, usually subconsciously, has learned how to trigger specific emotions through the manipulation of social situations as opposed to allowing their emotions to be felt naturally through the outcome of a social situation. A sociopath's brain will process emotions as information which they must act upon. For instance a sociopath will have a specific, hidden, agenda when engaging in most social interactions.

Society itself, cities in particular, are increasingly breeding grounds for sociopaths who, after spending a lifetime of being bombarded by an unrelenting amount of information, have learned to systemize emotions. This is why cities are the most miserable of places, existing to allow sociopaths to give rise to new information, information which will give rise to more sociopaths, and sociopaths who will create new technology to systemize their emotions; generally in order to entertain them in their boredom, or increase their capital, and thus their power, influence, and ability to manipulate. In this vicious cycle it is no wonder why there is no little room for humanity or culture.

It was Herbert Prochnow who said "*A city is a large community where people are lonely together.*" and it was Mother Teresa who said "*Loneliness is the most terrible type of poverty.*"

With real social interaction being too limited in choices and possibilities for the sociopath it is no wonder why cities are lonely places and it is no wonder why social networking websites such as Myspace.com and Facebook.com have sprung into popularity on the internet. What better place for a sociopath to interact than through a medium that is even more systematic and logical than reality itself?

Facebook.com is currently the 83rd most visited site on the internet with media reports citing statistics that over "85% of college students use the service" while Myspace.com is currently the 14th most visited site with its service touting a user base of over 40 million profiles.

The increased use of technology such as the two aforementioned social networking sites is currently a major catalyst in the transformation of society's culture. In particular, amongst the up and coming generation of adults, the concept of a romantic relationship has changed to the point where modern day relationships start on less of a basis of 'meeting' and more of a type of sociopathic analysis of a person before the possibility of courtship.

Indeed it is the sociopaths who have the advantageous edge using these services where the psychological concepts of 'Impression Management,' 'Social engineering,' and 'Adaptive Psychology' easily come into play.

As technology and information grow, it is human culture, human ideology, and the old ideas of humanity itself which will continue to suffer.

There are only two choices for the individual to make at this point. The first is to the choice of never to become educated, for the early Americans knew best then they set as a proverb the phrase. "Ignorance is Bliss."

The other is to continuing living the capitalist lifestyle, knowing full well the depth of one's sociopathic tendencies while gladly remaining solely to function as a tool for the progression of technology, and of capitalism; leading to the eventual end of what it means to be a human being. As Henry David Thoreau quoted "*Men have become the tools of their tools.*"

Technological progress is like an axe in the hands of a pathological criminal.

Albert Einstein