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HIGHER COLLEGES OF TECHNOLOGY



كلية دبي للطالبات
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Desert Dawn

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A WOMAN'S EDUCATION... HER LIFE

Women's rights to education still challenged by cultural barriers

GREAT AMBITIONS, GREATER POSITIONS

Noura Mohammed Juma, the country's new Consul General in Shanghai, China, talks to DD...

Desert Dawn

Be smart and use it wisely

NADA AL MATROOSHI

Imagine walking around in a mall, or running your daily errands in the supermarket, you look around and you see no conversations going on among people who are together. All you see are people magnetized to their phones. They are so glued to this object, which will soon become a threat to human society.

The dawn of technology is upon us. Whether you are at NASA's space center or at your local grocery store, its presence is clearly felt. One of technology's milestones is that of telecommunications, where a phone today is also a portable mini PC capable of performing useful tasks such as emailing, surfing the net and chatting at any desirable location. However, as with all things, this technological advancement has been also misused by many.

Nowadays you can barely find a person without a Blackberry or a Facebook account. You walk in a mall, you see people having coffee, and on their Blackberries; they tend to unintentionally ignore the people sitting with them. You log onto Facebook, which is supposed to be a way of keeping in touch with your friends and you find girls and boys trying to seduce each other over the Internet!

The same goes for other programs and websites like MSN Messenger and other online chat rooms. One of the main factors that lead to the

misuse of technology is the way people are brought up. Some families still adhere to the traditions and culture in an aggressive way, thus bringing up their children in a society which is far more developed than their mentality. Hence, the child grows up and sees a different world than the one s/he is living at home. This causes the child to be in a state of shock, which affects the way s/he acts during their adolescence period. "The misuse of technology in our society is due to the way children are raised by parents which causes a negative reaction or outburst, the more you say no, the more you want to do something which has unintentional negative outcomes," says Noaf, a frequent user of the Internet.

Due to factors of life, like poverty and illiteracy, some families do not pay much attention to education, therefore, negatively impacting the lives of their children. Education plays a fundamental role in the development of a human's brain. Education helps people in having a wider and broader perspective about life.

According to a worried father, "there is a fine line between using technology as a method of facilitating our lives and using the same technology for unethical reasons like seducing, blackmailing, distributing fake rumors, and so forth. People have to know the difference between each and use

technology for their own benefit and at the same time keep in mind the benefit to others. Our society, is a society that is attached to traditions and customs, but at the same time it is developing at a very fast pace which may lead to a conflict of needs and wants in a person's life and may cause the misuse of technology. As we can clearly see, kids who are attached to technology tend to get attached to different values than children ten years ago."

Piracy continues to be one of the most dangerous challenges to modern technologies. "Preventing piracy is a very important issue. Regardless of the great efforts we put to prevent piracy, individuals will find new ways everyday to practice piracy. I believe this is not only unethical, but also people lose their money when others distribute their work without having any legal rights to do so," argues an employee at Etisalat.

Technology has indeed become, one of today's life necessities. Although people cannot live without it, they can be smart and use it wisely.





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