Name of Author: Dorothy Woodend

Title: Generation Velcro

What’s the Author’s opinion in one sentence?

In the world of information, the author notices that children are losing practical skills that their grandparents may have had, and suggests that it is the parent’s responsibility to teach their children some skills as opposed to mainly shielding them.

References to expert sources:

Original post: <https://thetyee.ca/Life/2008/11/21/VelcroKids/>

“Failing memories

In the Vancouver Sun, Meeru Dhalwala recently wrote a column about wanting to start a vegetable garden, but not having even the slightest notion of where to start. For those of us even just a generation removed from the family farm, already the loss of knowledge is enormous.”

. In The Overflowing Brain, Torkel Klingberg, a professor of cognitive neuroscience at Sweden's Karolinska Institute writes, "If we do not focus our attention on something, we will not remember it." The inability to concentrate in a world of competing bits of information and constant multitasking has led to brains that can no longer keep up. Suddenly, I see why a podcaster has sought out my mother's repository of practical knowledge. “

Podcaster link: <https://thetyee.ca/Life/2008/11/16/OldestProfession/>

“Is our society self aware?

In Dark Age Ahead, Jane Jacobs writes that, "A society must be self-aware. Any culture that jettisons the values that have given it competence, adaptability and identity becomes weak and hollow."

James Kunstler shares Jacobs' dim view of the North American future, but he apparently has even less hope for the ability of current population to do the work that needs doing. Kunstler writes often about the great tattooed, hedonistic, neo-Darwinian masses of Americans, who bear almost no resemblance to the hardworking, industrious people of the 1930s, who, when FDR announced his plans to turn the nation around, basically set to the task at hand. “

“Tragic story” of 15 year old running away: after fight with parents about video games <https://www.thestar.com/news/ontario/2008/11/15/thousands_mourn_brandon_crisp.html>

Lec 3 continuation of analyzing this article

-critique

-think about the tone she uses

1. Is the tone extreme? Find an example.

“Is this generation heading into a coming dark age with little more than the ability to update their Facebook statuses and watch Youtube, all with laces untied?”

2. Evidence? Find a place where she probably needs more evidence

“(In case you didn't know, Monsanto has been quietly buying up heritage seed companies for the past while.)” – a link would be nice here

“. Information is not knowledge, nor even close to wisdom”

“In North America now, less than two per cent of people call themselves farmers and the median age of farmers in Canada is already pushing mid-50s.” where is this coming from?

“wear Velcro go to jail”

“it’s getting harder to learn and remember things”

3. Examples? Logic-> “Brandon Crisp, who ran away after a fight with his parents about video games. How could a young boy die so easily?” – this example is maybe not fair

4. Dialogue

-doesn’t acknowledge the benefits of things like facebook (connecting people across the globe)

-efficient spread of news

-value of information that we don’t need to necessarily remember, just reference