Two Negative Impacts of AI on Humans

Do you know that according to research (World Economic Forum, 2025), more than three hundred million jobs will be replaced by AI (Artificial Intelligence), while the emergence of new jobs cannot catch up with the trend? Work is fundamental to society's prosperity. It provides people with identity, wealth, and certain social networks. However, the rapid rise of AI has raised a widespread concern about job displacement. Meanwhile, generative AI has already affected individuals’ way of thinking, as individuals’ thoughts can be influenced by other intelligence. Negative impacts of AI have already been spotted on human society and individual thoughts.

In human society, negative impacts are witnessed on the economy and law system. As for the impacts on the economy, AI has been causing job displacement. Technological advancement promoted the automation of routine manual work, causing job displacement among low-skilled labours. Furthermore, newly born generative AI poses a potential threat to more jobs. The capital-to-labor ratio is an economic indicator, providing insights into labor efficiency and the capital intensity of an economy or industry, while higher radio indicates fewer jobs are provided by investing the same amount of capital. AI improved productivity with large capital investments, reducing the demand for labor hours at the same time, and increasing the capital-to-labor ratio. Thus, underutilization of labor appeared, followed by job displacement (Occhipinti et al., 2024). Additionally, AI raised legal controversy, especially on the protection of copyright (Al-kfairy et al., 2024). Due to the materials of the AI training are often online resources protected by copyright (Jaen, 2024), outputs given by the AI somehow consist of other authors’ mental work, who are not even informed. However, it is debatable in the legal world about the legality of using copyrighted work in AI training (Debevoise, 2025). Meanwhile, copyright infringement claims in the context of AI are emerging phenomena and difficult to prove (Debevoise, 2025). Just as in the Thomson Reuters v. ROSS Intelligence case, the argument about the legality of using copyrighted work for AI training lasted for years in courts, with multiple reversed adjudications (Debevoise, 2025). In general, the threat of AI on our economy and legal system is increasingly promi，，nent, causing job displacement and legal arguments.

The development of AI changed the way individuals think negatively by making people think less critically and feeding people false news. The first argument is that AI usage will lead to a decrease in critical thinking. Initially, the rapid feedback provided by AI searching with an authoritative tongue leads people to assume that the output is objective (Larson et al., 2024). Therefore, people would be discouraged to broaden and deepen searches deep down the topic. Moreover, AI showed more empathy than human experts (Chen et al., 2024), which evoked emotional trust in addition to cognitive trust in users (Glikson & Woolley, 2020), leading to a reduction of critical thinking. The second point is about AI-generated deepfake. Although deepfakes themselves are neutral, the malicious use of this technology facilitates the spread of false news. This poses a serious threat of manipulating public opinion by misinforming individuals (Ángel Fernández Gambín et al., 2024). With a lot of information that cannot be distinguished as true or false online, individuals can be easily misled by misinformation and produce wrong conclusions. What is more, the process of the formation of personal will is influenced by the same process. In conclusion, AI can change the way humans think by feeding people wrong or biased information in a seemly authoritative way, leading to the decrease in usage of critical thinking and false opinions formed by deepfake resources.

AI negatively affects both human society and the thoughts of individuals. Through affecting the labor market and leading to legal disputes, AI has negatively impacted human society. Besides, it also influences our way of thinking, leading to a lack of critical thinking and forming false opinions through deepfakes. Standing at the doorstep of the AI era, it is already time for our human society to focus on and regulate the ethical use of AI. Only in this way can AI, a double-edged sword, be exploited by humans instead of becoming the gravedigger of humankind.

***Word count: 657 words.***

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