**Where I lived and what I lived for**

*Are there parallels between Thoreau’s critique of technology and how we might view certain technology today?*

Transcendental philosopher Henry David Thoreau critique of technology has parallels to present day viewpoints on technology. An important choice in Thoreau’s life was to spend a few months in a cabin lost in the woods in the Northeast region of the United States. The decision he made of spending time in silence and solitude represents his desire of finding himself in a constant changing American society. As the country was developing and improving its technology, Thoreau realized the materialist American Dream was corrupting the country’s society and the welfare of the citizens. His opposition to assimilation of technology is evident on his work, in this case “Where I Lived, and What I Lived for.”

Currently, resistance and hostility towards technology development and its use in daily life is prominent in older generations. This motion is caused by the fact that most of adults did not grow up with modern technology since it was not available to them. Similarly as Thoreau, they insist that technology is a prosthetic on the younger population. Ironically, elders grew up with technology that was not available to their parents, television, radio, and telephone. This cycle of criticism can be undoubtedly traced back to the nineteenth century, when the philosopher was alive.

Certainly, our view on certain technology that does not help us improve our lives is negative, nevertheless it is a necessary evil that will leads us to development of functional tools. Young public is a strong and uncontrollable technology user. However, this active consumerism will have the effect of sparking interest in young minds on the functionality and application of computers, technology, and tools. As a result, their curiosity will steer their career paths on developing alternative solutions to current issues. Consequently, quality of life will be improved with technology.