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Essay

Aldous Huxley was a prominent English writer, philosopher, and novelists. He is best known for his novels and writings based off future societies. They entail both utopic and dystopic futures where people are the extreme forms of the values in modern day society. From his turning point in his career, publishing Brave New World, Huxley shown his distrust in both politics and technology. This leads himself to studying philosophy and writing of different futures.

In his essay “Propaganda in a Democratic Society,” Aldous Huxley shows his directed audience that technological advances benefit the rich but harm the poor. He covers the idea that the rational propaganda is becoming irrelevant and the nonstop distractions are becoming more popular. Rational propaganda is the political and social views of other people that benefits people’s interests; whereas, non-stop distractions are diversions to the realities of the social and political situations. With such technological advances, the future is headed toward a society with that will only hold back the poor and help the rich. With how society is so programmed to follow the status quo blindly, it supports the idea of multiple conditioning that is argued in Huxley’s novel, Brave New World.

In Walter Mosley’s essay, Shouting Underwater, he covers the idea that society as a whole cannot help each other due to the hopeful thinking that the government will be there to help them. Society is conditioned to automatically rely on the government to help, but this only blinds them to the injustices of reality. Mosley furthers his argument by stating, *we stumble and fall unable to make a stand or lend a hand or protest all the victims in ghettos, retirement homes, prison wards and dark skins.* The non-stop disturbances are used as instruments that direct people’s attention away from injustices and problems of society.

Similar to Brave New World, everyone is obedient and complacent to the government to provide everything for society. They blindly follow their command because of all the manipulation and control embedded within technology throughout the years. Without people knowing their own political or social situation, they don’t know the injustices and unfairness of their lives. People could live better lives if people would realize the arguments presented in the Huxley’s novel.

As much as society can benefit off the many technological advances of today and the future, in Michael Bugeja’s article, The Age of Distraction, he actually shows how society is deteriorating as technology grows. Despite *360 more classroom hours in 2005 than in 1990* and *academic software programs*, *reading scores in 2005 were significantly worse than in 1992*. These non-stop distractions are having a direct impact on the minds of the common man. As society deteriorates more and more, the easier it will be for the government to manipulate and control us with our own addictive distractions. We are headed towards a *Huxlean* society where we are controlled by the government and find no urge to question it.

This Huxlean society entails of smarter people with lazier qualities. People have all the resources toward a great education but instead use them to amuse themselves for hours on end. Technology is supposed to make lives more luxurious, and in essence more lazy. The goal in technology is to live a life where humans will not have to work, but simply live carefree lives. However, this goal has been warped and is now headed towards a *mentally lazy* society, instead of living a physically lazy life. In the novel, Huxley talks about a Soma-Induced Coma simply to escape the realities of society, a direct example on how technology is making people *mentally lazy*. Technology has become a detrimental tool for the rich and the government to bring down the poor.

In Robert L. Heilbroner’s article, Don’t Let Stereotypes Warp your Judgement, he talks about how stereotypes can create a false illusion of the reality that we exposed to everyday. In his article, he says by fully endorsing stereotypes, people become *mentally lazy* as they let stereotypes judge people, rather their own analysis. Heilbroner’s argument can also be directed not only towards stereotypes but also technology that distracts us from the world around us. Technology creates a new false reality to live by and makes us *mentally lazy* to see the world around us ourselves. This is how the government uses technology as their own instrument of policy and distracts away from the realities of the political and social situation.

Brave New World includes characters and people who judge others based off a single idea. For example, people are judged very harshly for being pregnant and having their own child, despite not knowing the circumstances. Huxley shows that these stereotypes and the speeds of which we judge are because of the society built around technology. This is because by judging others, people won’t have to face their own issues and problems surrounding themselves. The distractions, such as judging others, are deliberately used to avoid individuals own issues and problems.

In conclusion, Huxley argues that the world is deprived of the real world because they are so blinded by the newer technological advances. People stay blinded because they would be going against their perfect safe status quo otherwise. However, the rational propaganda is trying to show us the real world, except society will never take the time to read it. The reason why these distractions are so addictive is because the producers of these distractions understand how to manipulate and catch the attention of a mass audience; whereas, simply the format and long readings repel the audience. Technology and its use as a distraction is *deliberately used as instruments of policy, for the purpose of preventing people from paying too much attention to the realities of the social and political situation.*

Works Cited

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Outline

1. Biography
   1. Aldous Huxley was a prominent English writer, philosopher, and novelists. He is best known for his novels and writings based off future societies.
   2. This leads himself to studying philosophy and writing of different futures.
2. Intro
   1. In his essay “Propaganda in a Democratic Society,” Aldous Huxley shows his directed audience that technological advances benefit the rich but harm the poor.
   2. With how society is so programmed to follow the status quo blindly, it supports the idea of multiple conditioning that is argued in Huxley’s novel, Brave New World.
3. Body 1
   1. In Walter Mosley’s essay, Shouting Underwater, he covers the idea that society as a whole cannot help each other due to the hopeful thinking that the government will be there to help them.
   2. The non-stop disturbances are used as instruments that direct people’s attention away from injustices and problems of society.
4. Evidence 1
   1. Similar to Brave New World, everyone is obedient and complacent to the government to provide everything for society.
   2. People could live better lives if people would realize the arguments presented in the Huxley’s novel.
5. Body 2
   1. As much as society can benefit off the many technological advances of today and the future, in Michael Bugeja’s article, The Age of Distraction, he actually shows how society is deteriorating as technology grows.
   2. We are headed towards a *Huxlean* society where we are controlled by the government and find no urge to question it.
6. Evidence 2
   1. This Huxlean society entails of smarter people with lazier qualities.
   2. Technology has become a detrimental tool for the rich and the government to bring down the poor.
7. Body 3
   1. In Robert L. Heilbroner’s article, Don’t Let Stereotypes Warp your Judgement, he talks about how stereotypes can create a false illusion of the reality that we exposed to everyday.
   2. This is how the government uses technology as their own instrument of policy and distracts away from the realities of the political and social situation.
8. Evidence 3
   1. Brave New World includes characters and people who judge others based off a single idea.
   2. The distractions, such as judging others, are deliberately used to avoid individuals own issues and problems.
9. Conclusion
   1. In conclusion, Huxley argues that the world is deprived of the real world because they are so blinded by the newer technological advances.
   2. Technology and its use as a distraction is *deliberately used as instruments of policy, for the purpose of preventing people from paying too much attention to the realities of the social and political situation.*