

I enjoyed a lot reading the oral history of the Internet published by Vanity Fair and the comments being made from everyone. Throughout the readings, I couldn't stop thinking about a conversation I had the other day with my husband where he was wondering why the 80's and the 90's (my generation) never had something like Woodstock, Rolling Stones and all that important music/culture revolutionaries of the '60s and '70s (his generation). I argued that the 80's and the 90's were tuning a different beat, or better say: "bit", as booming as the previous generations. Then I said: We were doing ICTs, we were establishing the Internet!

A couple of comments about the primary and the secondary readings:

1. In the Vanity Fair article it seems that the history of the Internet is fundamentally divided two periods:

a. First, the altruist period prior the dot-com boom of the 90s, where scientists were combining physics and information to great use of communication, without concerning "about making money, or reputation" The predominant attitude was "to help one another" (Paul Baran).

b. Second, the entrepreneurial period, where scientists were replaced by money oriented entrepreneurs with the ability to figure out the killer app to attract users, at the highest level of quality and scale simultaneously. BTW, BBC published a very interesting story about the start-ups houses for entrepreneurs in Silicon Valley at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-21773244>

2. The theory of communicative action needs to be understood in the context of the distance education, allowing us to maintain the distinctions of the ideal ground for innovation in this field. In the Sumner article, I found particularly interesting the reflexions that go on whether technology serves the lifeworld by creating public spheres that enable communicative action, or whether it serves the system by destroying that public space.

3. Naughton's secondary reading is an important complement to structure historical events including protagonists outside of the ARPANET's elite group. I actually would place the development of the UNIX platform in the top 5 most important things for the establishment of the Internet together with the TCP-IP, the packet-switching, the personal computer and the C programming language. All of them with a common characteristic: portability.

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Communal living in Silicon Valley

"Entrepreneurs are increasingly living, breathing and even sleeping the start-up life - choosing to live communally in 'start-up houses' where you can get connections and access to workshops and investors."

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-21773244>

How 'big data' is changing lives

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-21535739>