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MEDST 255

Response to Group 1

The internet isn’t good or bad for the youth. I think its both at the same time. The youth right now is addicted to technology. They are always on their phones or computers, and in some ways, the internet could be dumbing them down. However, the internet creates many opportunities, not just for the youth. Many people make careers out of the internet, and searching anything through the internet is possible. As long as someone wants to know something, they have access to the information.

There are also a lot of troll websites, the one mentioned in the presentation lolcat, these websites are a source of distraction. It also is a waste of time to endlessly look through those type of websites. If the youth is getting caught up scrolling through those kind of websites, it can dumb down the youth. But memes are a way to express creativity, so again, I don’t think its good or bad, it all depends on the youth and what they are using the internet for.

The opportunities that are available through the internet are endless. The internet is just a huge database of information. While some people may gravitate towards meme or troll websites, some may use the internet educationally. Surfing the web is a leisure activity, and although kids are spending more and more time on it, I don’t think its fully at blame. Everyone is always so quick to blame the internet for societies problem. I do agree that having the internet leads to problems, but again, its all choice.

When I’m sitting at a restaurant, and I see families at other tables, there will always be at least one kid who is sitting there playing games on their iPhone or iPad. Having the internet so assessable, it hinders quality time, again, it serves as a distraction more than anything. Depending how the youth uses internet will determine the effect it has on an individual. If they are using it leisurely, then yes, they probably aren’t doing anything productive or meaningful. But using it as a tool for communication, or information are both beneficial.

So in conclusion, I don’t think the internet is bad for the youth. Depending on the person is using the internet, they may find opportunities through it or it may dumb them down. Again, it all depends on how they are using it.