As a conservationist, I believe Berry is indeed doing his own part to limit the electricity he spends, and therefore limiting the money he sends to electrical companies that practice strip-mining of coal. Strip-mining coal is terrible for not just the environment, but miners and everyday people who breathe in the pollution from burning coal. Money is power; why would you give power to those you oppose? His argument to support his idea was that no amount of government influence or any public policy will make us into a conserving society, it has to be public opinion and public action that takes place down at the grassroots level: you and I as individuals. This new technological “innovation” often does not only get rid of the obsolete object, but often fills positions that were once held by people with technology. He does not want to lean on the crutch of technology that the rest of society leans on, because crutches can always be knocked out from under you. What are we to do then?

In this instance, upgrading from a typewriter to a computer would remove from his writing process his wife. His wife edits his writings, and can sometimes even understand what he is trying to convey better than he is, and certainly better than a computer ever could. In school financing computers take the place of higher teacher pay, and better books, which are fundamental to education. His friends often ridicule him because he has not ‘’upgraded”, and argue that by owning a computer, it would make him a better writer. Berry’s defense is that by owning a computer, it will not affect the content of his writing at all; computers cannot create creativity.

Berry is not intending to accuse anyone for anything, (other than attacking power companies, computer manufacturers, and the consumerism that conversely cuts jobs through technology) but is rather defending his beliefs and ideas. In Berry’s mind, the disadvantages of buying a computer outweigh the benefits of owning one: he destroys the environment by using power from companies that strip-mine coal, supports the idea of “newer, better, faster”, and takes away from his wife something that she actually enjoyed doing, reading and editing her husband’s work.

Technology, as Berry mentioned, is not always beneficial as much as it is harmful. An example of this would be cyber bullying among adults, teens, and even prepubescent children. Being able to instantly message anyone from nearly anywhere in the world makes it possible for people to be barraged with hateful messages all day, every day by bullies that are much more enabled from the ability to hide behind their computer screen. Bullies can form these groups, and within moments fill up the victim’s email, voice mail, text messages, and social media sites with this “hate mail”. Anyone can fall victim to it. It could cause any victim to spiral into depression, and in teens, lead to a spike in suicide rates. Who wins, the bully or technology?