Humans are social by nature. This means we like to communicate with others. One can both physically and technologically communicate with others. . In the search for information, communication is crucial. Information can then be used to gain a better perspective regarding the world we live in. Social networking and network analysis can help us to better understand and question the world around us because of the overwhelming quantity of resources and methods one can extract information from.

A particularly interesting way to gather or isolate information by way of social networking and network analysis is by examining “cliques.” I, for example, have attended my school since first grade. As time has progressed, I believe technology has had a tremendous influence on the cliques we form. In our school, cliques are isolated groups of students who typically share a common interest (e.g. sports, academics, the arts). These cliques can be potentially limited to the amount of information contained within their inner circle unless, however, another student acts as a “link” between the two cliques. This would provide a wealth of new information and connections, as well as a new world of opportunities. Therefore, social networking and network analysis provide us with more connections and consequently, more information that can be used to achieve a greater perspective of the world we inhabit.

Social networking and network analysis provide the average person with countless ways to procure knowledge. Because of technology, there is an abundance of possible connections. If one were to maximize the use of their connections, they could potentially gather a great deal of information. This is because social networking and network analysis allow us to receive information from people we have never met. However, statistics show that this can typically be done in less than six links, therefore allowing us to maximize our time and gather more information. This has helped many to gain a more analytical perspective and understanding about the world around us.

Because technology is so frequently used in modern society, there exist fewer strong relationships and more weak relationships. However, this can be beneficial when trying to find new information. More weak relationships means more connections, and more connections means more opportunities to discover information. For example, my social media accounts have allowed me to cultivate a relationship with people I otherwise would have never met. If I ask my Internet friends for information, typically, they will provide. Negatively, because less strong relationships exist, we slowly drift apart from those we used to have strong relationships with. However, when finding information, it is beneficial to have more weak relationships than strong.

Social networking and network analysis has provided us with the knowledge of many more connections. These connections can link us to others we can obtain information from. This information can potentially provide us with an in-depth perspective of our surroundings and the world we live in. We can then interrogate the world and its inhabitants to procure even more information.