Wendell Berry’s article “Why I Am Not Going to Buy a Computer” can come off as narrow or bossy because he says, “computers should follow my standards for technological innovation”. It appears as though the standards have to be his way. His opinion also seems to be male dominated. Although Berry’s propaganda opinion is very narrow, I do agree with his overall message that computers are not necessary because they lessen human interaction and owning a computer does not make you a better person.

The example of less human interaction Wendell Berry uses is the literary relationship he has with his wife. “We have, I think, a literary cottage industry that works well and pleasantly.” Mr. and Mrs. Berry’s relationship will not be enhanced with the use of a computer. As a matter of fact, it will actually be negatively impacted because Mrs. Berry will no longer have a connection to her husband’s occupation. I have noticed the same breakdown in interaction with my friends. Two weeks ago I begged my mom to take me to the boardwalk to meet up with my friends. We were so happy to get a chance to hang out without our parents around. After about 30 minutes, I looked up and noticed we were all on our phones and not talking to one another. This is a perfect example of how technology breeds isolation. As Wendell Berry suggests technology does not make you a better person, writer or teacher. “I disbelieve, and therefore strongly resent, the assertion that I or anybody else could write better or more easily with a computer than with a pencil.” Mr. Berry could not be more correct. Spring semester I was so excited to be in the teacher of the year’s Geometry class. Every time visitors came to our school, they used our class as an example. We were on the news and every day we would use Nexus tablets in class. One day there was construction being done on campus and they cut our Ethernet cable. My “teacher of the year” was completely lost! He spent the entire block trying to find worksheets for the class. The next day the internet was still down and he put a movie in for the class to watch. A bunch of us were worried that we wouldn’t get to finish our project with the Nexus tablets and asked when we would get the chance to finish because the project was worth 75 points. My “teacher of the year” announced that we would be watching movies for the rest of the week until the internet started working again. In this case, technology does not make you a better teacher.

Wendell Berry makes several arguments why technology is not a necessary tool to society. Isolation and laziness are just a couple of the outcomes that are evident in our society due to technology. Computers do not make you a better person, and do not make us more socially connected and better people.