**Why You Should Buy a Computer**

In the article “Why I Am Not Going to Buy a Computer”, Wendell Berry is adamantly against the progression of technology. He believes that physical labor is more valuable than a computer doing the work for him. Although Berry believes that technological evolution is pointless, technology has, in fact, helped make headway into more efficient ways of farming, kept people connected worldwide, and aided the advancement of medicinal science. While Berry’s points about technology and not without merit, they are shortsighted. Technology helps, rather than hurts, the world and humanity as a whole.

Berry is very passionate about farming and the environment, so much so that he has written many poems and articles about it. In one article, Berry claims, “I do not see that computers [technology] are bringing us one step nearer to anything that does matter to me: … ecological health…”. He believes that technology will do more damage to the environment than traditional farmers working with just their hands. However, Berry fails to see how technology hasbrought mankind several steps closer to maintaining and improving the environment through more efficient farming. According to a CNN article about farmers using technology, “It helps farmers identify where crops are growing slowly, prioritize which fields to attend to, and ideally avoid crop-health issues before they affect yields.” (Hacking the Farm). Farmers often rely on weather forecast and geological apps to help plan out when and where to plant their crops. This makes farming more effective than it was decades ago.

Berry was also concerned about computers hindering his ability to connect with his family. Although Berry believes that technology makes people feel disconnected, and it can certainly feel that way because many people are on their phones instead of enjoying the company of the people they are with, the disconnect is underwhelming compared to how much it has made people feel more connected. Almost half of the world's population uses various social media apps to connect with people from all over the world. Families that have moved away from each other use Skype, Facebook, and other tools to keep in touch with one another. Technology has brought people closer together more often than it has torn them apart.

Technology has been used in a number of other ways that Berry has not seemed to consider, including furthering the enhancement of medicinal science. Without the help of technology, thousands of people that are alive today would not be alive due to diseases such as cancer, AIDS, pneumonia, and more. There are many medicines, treatments, and machines that have been made by the use of technology. Machines include CAT scan computers, MRI machines, and a variety of other life saving tools. If technology had not become as advanced as it is now, people would not even know about recently discovered diseases and would be clueless on how to treat them.

Even though Berry believes that technology is unnecessary, it has helped make progress to better the world. Technology is, and will keep evolving, and with it comes its problems and solutions. It isn't perfect, but it has made lives easier for billions around the world. Ultimately, people should not be quick to neglect economic and medical advances for more eye contact at the dinner table.