Paul Diaz

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Over the last 50 years, creating and improving advanced technologies have become the main focus of many technological companies around the world, most especially the companies in the United States, United Kingdom, Switzerland, France, and other first-world countries. These technologies include smart phones, the Internet, Internet of Things (IOT), electric vehicles (cars, trains, and others), web and phone applications such as social media websites and apps, video games, artificial intelligence, the cloud (which I think will be the next big thing), and many other great inventions. Most of these technologies aim to better people’s lives, help the community, and of course, profit, which leads to improving the economy. This paper talks about how social media, such as Facebook and Twitter, have helped people’s lives and contributed to the community in terms of environmental and social aspects. Additionally, this paper also discusses possible unintended environmental and social consequences brought by this technology. The last part of this paper talks about a project that I was part of and discusses how it can contribute to eliminating the social injustice in the workforce in the United States.

Social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter have positively impacted our society, helped those people who need immediate attention, and brought awareness of the social injustice and inequalities that have happened in the United States. One example is Facebook’s feature where people can publicly post live events for good causes. Celebrities like Shelane Woody have used Facebook Live to broadcast what was happening during the Dakota Access Pipeline protest that started in April 2016, which essentially raised awareness to the threats that could be brought by the installation of pipelines in Standing Rock. These threats include jeopardizing Native Americans’ clean water and destruction of ancient burial grounds. Through Facebook, a non-profit organization called *I Love Dogs International* (ILDI) was able to globalize their mission of helping animals, mostly dogs and occasionally cats, to find new homes and prevent them from euthanasia or mercy killings. ILDI has been actively advocating animals’ welfare, talking about cases, and bringing news to people to create awareness about animal cruelty. These two examples mentioned above have contributed tremendously to helping many people on many levels: uncovering social injustices, such as animal cruelty and the overall unjust treatment and oppression that many Native Americans have been suffering since Dakota Pipeline project has started, and environmental injustices, such as the hazardous effect brought by the pipelines to the clean water in the Sioux River used by many people living within Standing Rock.

Posting articles and status updates on Twitter have become trends and caught many people’s attention, especially articles about inequality, hate, discrimination, and other injustices that many people experience in the country. For example, the viral Twitter event post tweeted by a Muslim community in St. Louis, Missouri that raised funds to help renovate the vandalized Jewish cemetery in response to an incident that caused extensive damage to over 100 tombstones that were toppled. Through Twitter and with the help Muslim community, even though Muslim and Jewish communities have misunderstandings, funds to reconstruct the vandalized cemetery were raised, and it was proven that compassion and humanity still exist. This example is a testimony that social networking, such as Twitter, is positively contributing to our society and restoring social justice despite the hate and discrimination happening against them.

Social networking is indeed an instrument to improve our society and environment, but there are also unintended consequences brought by this technology. One example is the cyberbullying. According to Larson, there are 6,078 recorded children deaths in the United States in the year 2016. Almost 14 percent of children in America, ages 15 to 24 years, suffered from cyberbullying and are most likely to commit suicide (Larson et al, 2001). The statistics gathered by Larson are quite alarming. Since there will be 69 percent of American children who will own a computer in the year 2017 and 81 percent of them will have access to text messaging, Larson predicted that there will be 20 percent of children that will be cyberbullied are most of those are likely to commit suicide (Larson et al, 2001). However, on the bright side, the government and many nonprofit groups have come together to launch anti-cyber bullying organizations such as stopbullying.gov that provide services like the prevention and reporting of cyber bullying.

In the fall of 2016, I was part of a team that implemented a professional networking project called ProNet, a website that helps prospective working people get equal opportunities to market their talents, skills, education, and experience to companies that seek manpower. I believe that websites like ProNet provide great opportunities to professionals to really showcase what they can offer to businesses and companies that they want to work in. With ProNet, these companies could learn more about applicants besides the basic information they provide in the resume. This project does not really contribute to social justice or injustice in the United States, but it has somehow provided a better way to help professionals find easy access to job opportunities and applications.

There are many technological innovations and developments that have happened in the last 50 years. Almost all of them have contributed to improve people’s lives and improve our society. However, there are also unintended environmental and/or consequences brought by social networking technologies such as Facebook and Twitter.

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