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Critical Studies: Computational Thinking & Critical Practice

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As a designer, thinking critically about creative problems and coming up with unique solutions is a part of my daily life. From my perspective, computational thinking and design thinking overlap in many ways, since both require an astute and comprehensive understanding of a specific issue along with the ideation of various creative solutions. The application of computational methods in the creative industry is definitely the future of design. I don't know a lot about programming or computing in general, but I do know that I've always wanted to integrate computing with my design skills.

Working in the design and marketing industry for the past couple of years made me curious about the role that media and technology plays in formulating our consciousness. Just how much of our thoughts and opinions are truly our own? How much of what we perceive as reality is actually factual? And how much of our experiences belong only to us? Are we being gaslighted or manipulated somehow through trends, games and whatnot?

I know! This sounds like one of those conspiracy theories at this point. But hear me out... Don't you find it strangely ironical that in today's age of technology, misinformation and misrepresentations are predominant and widely spread? I guess this is one of the biggest limitations of technology. Technology gave us access to worlds of information, past and present. It also gave us the ability to communicate with anybody, anywhere around the globe; which means that we can say anything, whether true? or false? Does really matter...?

So which is it? Is technology good or bad? I guess the answer depends on who is using this technology and how they're using it?

I mean when I think about the way technology has been integrated into brands, installations, art and so on, I always find myself fascinated and super excited by the endless possibilities and potential. In a similar fashion, when I think about data leaks, cyberbullying, and who-knows-who-can-track-you-through-your-phone, I'm always left with a feeling of gloom.

As for the cultural impact of computational thinking, I would like to end this thought bubble on a positive note and say that technology is a great way of sharing different cultural traditions and ideas in order to bring people together. I like to envision a world where technology doesn't have a detrimental effect on our ecosystem. Also, a world where tolerance and respect for all living things is predominant. Lastly, a world where we choose to make technology that can enhance our lives and simultaneously preserve our planet rather than destroy it through wars and the mental division of us verses them.

Note:

I realise that I might've drifted off topic in this mini thought bubble of mine. Apologies for that! But I am interested in all topics relating to privacy, censorship, technoethics, psychological manipulation through technology.