

TOK exhibition

22. What role do experts play in influencing our consumption or acquisition of knowledge? (Knowledge and technology)

Word count - 946

Object 1 - my home TV

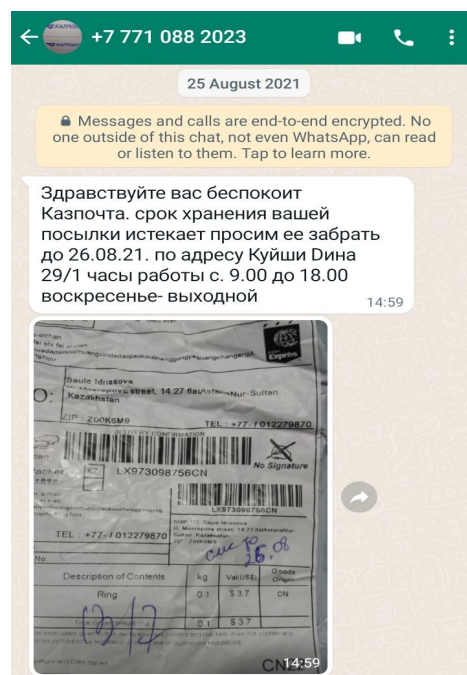


As one of the objects for TOK exhibition I chose my old home TV. Our family has not changed it for 10 years, and for such a long period of time, it served to us as one of the main sources of important information and news, especially in the 2000s. At that time we did not purchase access to the Internet, so for us it was even considered as the only media source of information, excluding paper resources, such as newspapers and books. Considering the influence of TV, that it had in my childhood, I decided to take this object for the exhibition, since it helps to discover how media experts on television affect on the perception of events by the way information was presented in a distorted or biased way. Therefore, it leads to misconceptions regarding particular life fields, including politics.

Comparing television industry in nowadays with the 2000s, the status of it has changed. In 2000s it was taken by the audience more seriously and was used as

the main source of news. Based on their experience, people found out with time, that although television is an official verified source, especially the news channels, they still may exclude much information, for example potentially violent or provocative content, which may cause disorder in the life of a country. Connecting with the prompt and the theme of knowledge and technology, media experts hide such content, hence it prevents the audience to get an emotional effect so that no conflicts arise and they could not damage the peace status of the country. Thus, media and television experts, such as reporters, journalists and other people responsible for the news content, affect on the way how viewers perceive a particular event, without even being aware of further details, which were hidden due to censorship or just reticence.

Object 2 - my screenshot of chat with KazPost about the late delivery of the parcel



As the second object for TOK exhibition I chose the screenshot of chat with KazPost about the delivery of the parcel. The message informs about the last chance of receiving the parcel and time of the office work. As it can be seen on the picture, this message was the first in the conversation and I did not receive any other messages before. The problem was that KazPost did not inform about the arrival of the parcel initially and sent a notification when the period of storage was close to expiring.

The reason for choosing this object in the exhibition is that it explains the problem of notifications through the social media by the delivery services, hence it creates a connection with the theme and prompt about the usage of technology by experts in order to consume information. Experts responsible for the notification of customers, are not attentive enough, so that sometimes forget to notify people about the arrival of their parcels on time, and leave this process until the period of storage is close to be expired, thus they force customers to cancel their plans in order to receive them. Considering the fact, that if the customer is not notified immediately about coming of his order, then he lacks knowledge about its arrival and thinks, that he does not have to receive it soon. But when he is notified lately, it may create inconvenience in arranging time. Thus, inattentive control and usage of social media may lead to getting lack of information.

Object 3 - thermal imager at my school



As the third object for TOK exhibition I chose a thermal imager located at my school. This device is used in order to measure body temperature in a non-contact way. In our school all students are obliged to measure their temperature with the thermal imager before they enter the school hall. This equipment is useful in preventing the spread of COVID-19, since it helps to check quickly for the acceptable temperature (lower than 37 C), which identifies the healthiness of students and reduces risks of getting infected. However, based on my experience, a thermal imager sometimes does not recognize the body temperature value and it takes several attempts to conduct recognition successfully. But due to the big amount of coming people, measurement has to be conducted quickly, and many students skip it in order to not take so much time. Thus it brings uncertainty of the information about the healthiness of a student, since there is no data to prove it. Hence, it increases the probability of getting infected to some extent.

The reason for selecting this object for exhibition is that it explains the effect of

technological invention and its creators on the consumption of knowledge about the health of people, errors of which sometimes might cause an incorrect perception of the healthiness of a student, thus it influences on the health of others, because the risk of getting infected increases.

Connecting the following object with the topic of Knowledge and technology, there is a direct use of a relatively new technological device, which is used to receive data, in this case they are temperature measurements. And then this data is analyzed, and based on the conclusions the appropriate decision about accepting the student is made. In case of the thermal imager, the medical worker or the person who controls checking the temperature should be aware of the standards of normal temperature in order to decide who is allowed to come in and always control whether students measured their temperature.

Connecting with the prompt, the experts, or in this case temperature-checkers have a responsibility in their work in order to prevent the spread of the possible disease, which could negatively affect on the general statistics of infected people. For this reason these workers have a responsibility to be attentive to every check and quality of the thermal imager.