Cellphones: A boon or a bane?

My ringtone blared through the speakers of my phone. Embarrassed, take my phone out my pocket, switch it off and put it back inside. I look up only to find my entire class looking at me and smiling, some even laughing. Turning my gaze to my teacher, I found him glaring at me.

“Ma’am,” he said, “we’re studying Mechanics, not Sound.”

Further ashamed, I bowed my head and apologized, and he continued to talk about the equation of motion. Mentally, I continued cursing myself.

Why had I forgotten to switch my phone off or at least turn the silent mode on? Why had I needed to bring it to class in the first place? Why did I even need a phone?

I wondered. Why do people need phones? A phone is a 20th Century device used to call or message anybody with a similar device. If the cellphone would have been just that, it would have solved a lot of our current problems. But a phone is much more than that.

The era of “Smartphones” has arrived.

Smartphones enable us to do more than just this basic communication. They allow you to access the Internet, which is the key to unlimited functions of your phone, along with an increase in the user’s capability.

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Games, Movies, Music, all just a touch away. Smartphones give a new definition to connectivity. A smartphone can be found with every teenager. It’ll either be glued to their hand, or their pocket. He will not let it out of his sight. Ever asked yourself why?

With an increase in connectivity, smartphones provide an increase in exposure to the outside world. This leads to an increase in search of untimely information and hence, an increase in secrets.

This doesn’t mean that every case is the same. Research proves that 78% of smartphone using teenagers have used their phones to search for inappropriate content.

As for the general effect of cellphones, they have proven to make social and economic life easier, but personal life harder. Years ago, best friends fought to stay on the same team. Today, best friends are those with the maximum number of pictures together.

We were the last generation that had their baby pictures clicked on proper digital cameras. When a child whines, a parent doesn’t even bother quieting him down. All he does, it runs Subway Surf and hands the phone to his child. Children prefer sitting indoors and playing mobile games rather than going outside and playing physical games. Children are being spoiled, their childhood is being ruined.

The ability of the mind to work has decreased. Birthdays, events, songs, have now been converted into reminders, playlists and calendar events. Because of this, it is a generation of smart phones and stupid people.