Jahnke (0808831)

CSCI 289, Fall 2022 (Online)

Assignment V

1. Three jobs that were eliminated due to technology and the reasons why:
   1. With the widespread adaptation of computers in the 1980s for personal and business use, jobs related to selling, repairing, and manufacturing typewriters have since vanished.
   2. The slide rule was invented in the early 17th century to mechanically compute various complex mathematical functions. When handheld scientific electronic computers became widely adopted in the 1970s and made these calculations a breeze, jobs related to slide rule sales and manufacturing became obsolete.
   3. While the job title itself has not been completely eliminated, the number of people working as bank tellers dropped by 37% from 1983 to 1993. Why? The number of automated teller machines (ATMs) grew around this time. These machines made it far easier for customers to get cash all without human interaction, thus, there simply wasn't a need for as many bank tellers.
2. In general, an increase in automated systems does not mean fewer jobs for high-skill workers. It may make some jobs obsolete, but there will always be jobs classified as "high-skill" at any point in economic history. The number of jobs developing and maintaining the automated systems will follow the pace of technology, and surely these are high skill. Furthermore, these automated systems very likely will supplement the resources available to high-skill workers thereby enhancing the job titles, not eliminating them. Just look at how automation has enhanced the output of data scientists, financial analysts, medical professionals, and so on. It’s scary to think that one’s job may be replaced by automation. But the time are ever-changing. Luckily, the education system has also kept up with the pace of technology making it easier for new and transitioning employees to acquire the skill necessary to be competitive in the marketplace.
3. One might say there has never been a better time than today to become an entrepreneur. Buy a domain name, set up a website, sell some rudimentary product or service, and voila, you're an entrepreneur. The market is full of tools to help budding entrepreneurs make a name for themselves: social media, YouTube, Audible, Kindle Publishing, Teachable, and the list goes on. The entrepreneurship question becomes more difficult at the later stages, where decisions can have global impact. A key part in company growth is finding employees. Do you hire local employees for in-person work? Do you hire remote employees? If so, do you look at offshoring? Offshoring can have some drastic applications. Yes, the work is generally cheaper. But do you want to support another nation's economy rather than your own? Many of these offshoring locations provide such cheap labor because of the poor work conditions there, such as longer hours and uncomfortable offices. Do you want a hand in that? How will that affect your brand?
4. It is reasonable for employers to fire employees for content they post on the Web if and only if the company policy of what is deemed acceptable to be posted is briefed to the employee at the time of hire. This is fair as employees reflect the company. If there is no such policy, then such a firing would be unfair as the employee was unaware of the decorum he/she must keep to retain employment and the firing basically boiled down the personal preference of the boss.
5. Anyone who has worked in an office setting knows that there is no real privacy in an office. Someone overhears something said at the watercooler that morning. Before lunch, the whole office has heard the rumor. So, although interpersonal privacy may be desired, it's an unreasonable expectation because humans are trash. What is entirely reasonable is for employees in positions of confidence (HR representatives, security officers, finance personnel, lawyers, etc.) to adhere to privacy policies regarding medical situations, pay, trade secrets, and the like. These subjects are usually covered by law and company policies may be more restrictive than the law. If there are no such policies or the company is lax when implementing the law, quit that job. It's a lawsuit waiting to happen.