

Ethical Implications of Technological Advancement and its Impact on the Happiness

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Abstract:

Technology is being used to fulfill our practical purposes through specific systems or methods which needs appropriate scientific knowledge. Such as internet of things, computer science, Artificial intelligence, Robotics, Military technology etc. It is to be believed that technological advancement benefits the human life towards more comfort, cheerfulness, peacefulness, development and congeniality. But the reality is way more different. The implications of Technological Advancement is way more cynical or threatening rather than useful or constructive only. The risk of security, privacy, accountability, sustainability and utility are being questioned. Which is the matter of concern for the whole humanity today. The problem could be solved by understanding the ethical ways of human development in a true sense and to follow them legitimately. The ultimate purpose of creation and use of the technology must be ethical and it should be fair, non-hazardous and equitable. Technological practices should be invigilated thoroughly and understanding it's advantages and disadvantages at the same time. Ethical decisions should be strictly made or verified while creating or discovering new technologies. As this directly impacts the environment and human lives, which defines the happiness and well being of people. It's a fact about happiness is that it's a fuel for our emotional and physical health. A sense of happiness and wellbeing helps us to nurture or prepare for better relationships and social interaction which ultimately contribute to the society and lives of others. Through this paper it is to be focused on understanding the gist of technology and technological advancement. What are the possible solutions for ethical Implications for a technological advancement. How could ethical Implications on technological advancement impacts the happiness.

Keywords: 1.Ethical implications 2.Technology 3.Technological Advancement 4.Happiness

Introduction:

In the 21st century we are almost dependent on the technology whether it is food, electricity, medical, education or medicine we relied on the technology. Even using day to day gadgets. According to Britannica, Technology is the application of scientific knowledge to the practical aims of human life or, as it is sometimes phrased, to the change and manipulation of the human environment.¹ As practical aims of human life needs technology so it's the necessary tool for us. In fact, we witnessed an accelerated technological progress by numerous innovations and inventions which ultimately cause a sudden change in the society. Technology treated efficaciously the whole humanity several times as we see the recent example of COVID- 19 where medical researchers advanced themselves in the technology for treatments and solutions in the same way traditional education turns out into online education. Due to technological

¹ Britannica.com (2023)

Advancement of a nation the whole world become closer and faster in many ways. Which ultimately proves are dependency on the technology. But it is important to know that whatever comes at ease to ourselves makes us addicted and inactive and gradually we forget to bound ourselves after some point of time. Then our some actions becomes unethical actions. Which ultimately turns into ethical implications of Technological Advancement.

Ethical Implications of Technological Advancement

Before understanding Ethical implications we need to understand the meaning of ‘*Ethics*’. Ethics, also called moral philosophy, the discipline concerned with what is morally good and bad and morally right and wrong. The term is also applied to any system or theory of moral values or principles.² In the same way *Ethical implications* basically considers moral questions like right and wrong ,equality and fairness. The importance of being ethical while using technology should be our goal. For understanding the role of ethics in technology we have to understand the term *Technoethics*, Technoethics (TE) is an interdisciplinary research area that draws on theories and methods from multiple knowledge domains (such as communications, social sciences, information studies, technology studies, applied ethics, and philosophy) to provide insights on ethical dimensions of technological systems and practices for advancing a technological society.³ To have insights on Ethical dimensions we need to discuss such cases where ethics are violated because of technological Advancement.

Ethical implications due to technological Advancement are when some thought, action, decision which turns into a physical, mental or emotional loss for an individual, group or society. There are numerous innovations and advancement which is the question of Ethical implications such as *video games for kids and adults*, number of researches and study shows that children who plays more video games are eclipsed with a high rate of addiction, aggression, depression etc. In the same way children who are using *access of technology and Social media* with high screen time makes them addicted and made them mentally, emotionally and physically sick. When we analyse the *impact of technological Advancement on relationships* we found dissatisfaction, disappointment and distance in relationships. we could not take these implications lightly. All of these Ethical implications are impacting as well as disturbing the happiness and peace of an individual, group, family and Society at some level.

Now, if we focus on some new innovations which turns out to be an ethical implications of Technological Advancement such as, he *Human chip implantation technology* Continues to develop, and many regions have practiced this technology in reality, but at the same time, this Technology also faces many ethical dilemmas. When we Use the ethical framework of rule utilitarianism to analyse, The negative impact of this technology is greater than the Positive impact.⁴ A human microchip implant is typically an identifying integrated circuit device or RFID (Radio-Frequency Identification) transponder encased in silicate glass and implanted in the body of a human being. This type of subdermal implant usually contains a unique ID number that can be linked to information contained in an external database, such as personal identification, law enforcement, medical history, medications, allergies, and contact information. But scientists are raising privacy concerns around the kind of personal health data that might be stored on the devices. Around the size of a grain of rice, the chips typically are inserted into the skin just above each user’s

² Britannica.com (2023)

³ Luppicini, Rocci (2010). Technoethics and the Evolving Knowledge Society: Ethical Issues in Technological Design, Research, Development, and Innovation. Advances in Information Security, Privacy, and Ethics

⁴ Wanting Zeng (2022) Advances in Social Science, Education and Humanities Research, volume 638

thumb, using a syringe similar to that used for giving vaccinations. Implanting chips in humans has privacy and security implications that go well beyond cameras in public places, facial recognition, tracking of our locations, our driving habits, our spending histories, and even beyond ownership of your data, which poses great challenges for the acceptance of this technology.⁵

If we consider an ethical implications of *5G technology*. While 5G technology has the potential to revolutionize the way we communicate and interact with the world, it also has the potential to have a significant impact on privacy and surveillance. Privacy advocates and civil liberties groups have raised serious concerns about the potential implications of 5G technology for privacy and surveillance. It is important for governments, companies, and consumers to be aware of the potential implications of 5G technology and take steps to protect their privacy and civil liberties.⁶ Another technological Advancement has implications in the form of *human cloning*. Human cloning has become one of the most controversial debates about reproduction in Western civilization. Human cloning represents asexual reproduction, but the critics of human cloning argue that the result of cloning is not a new individual who is genetically unique. There is also awareness in the scientific community, including the medical community, that human cloning and the creation of clones are inevitable. Psychology and other social sciences, together with the natural sciences, will need to find ways to help the healthcare system, to be prepared to face the new challenges introduced by the techniques of human cloning. One of those challenges is to help the healthcare system to find specific standards of behaviour that could be used to help potential parents to interact properly with cloned babies or children created through genetic manipulation.⁷ The use of *technology in the processing of information*, poses important questions with regard to a person's right to privacy. This right is directly linked to the right to freedom and human autonomy. These problems relate mainly to the accessibility of information and the manipulation thereof. This is of specific relevance to the information professional who deals with private and personal information. Practical guidelines in the handling of these problems can be formulated according to the norms of freedom, truth and human rights.⁸ These were some of the Technological Advancement which are having ethical implications.

Many researches has shown that fake news are creating chaos in the society. It damages the individual as well as society physically, socially and emotionally. It evokes negative emotions and contains death-related themes. Sometimes results into heinous crime such as mob lynching, Communal violence etc. These studies results that fake news is more likely to increase death-related thoughts compared to real news.

Technostress, or the experience of stress due to an inability to adapt to new technologies, manifests in various conditions such as job dissatisfaction , perceptions of being drained by the use of technological devices , feelings of exhaustion, loss of motivation, frustration, and burnout . Further problems associated with digitalization, such as replacement fear , stressful hyper-connectivity, an increase in a cognitively demanding and simultaneous decrease in manual jobs, and digitalization anxiety , may further cause or aggravate mental health problems.⁹

⁵ Marcin Frackiewicz, The Ethical Implications of 5G Technology By Drones, TS2 Spaceon, 2023

⁷ NM Morales Psychology biological aspects of human cloning and genetic manipulation: the identity and uniqueness of human beings Reproductive Biomedicine Online Volume 19, Supplement 2, 2009, Pages 43-50

⁸ J.J.Britz Technology as a threat to privacy: Ethical challenges to the Information Profession

⁹ Teepe, Increasing digitalization is associated with anxiety and depression: A Google Ngram analysis,2023,18(4).

Social media plays a multi-dimensional role in recent communal violence in India. The role of social media by dividing it into three main categories, namely, “Pre-role”, “Intermediate role” and “Post-role”. Creating rumour attacks, mobilizing people on communal line, organizing mobs, promoting political agendas etc. Some examples of multi-dimensional role played by social media. In this way, social media has become an organized or constructive tool. But especially in the twenty-first Century, the magnitude and spread of communalism has increased, due to social media as one of the factors. Communalism takes departure from its ‘traditional hegemonic style’ to ‘psychological hegemonic style’. Above all, it can be said that a ‘digital form of communalism’ has emerged which requires a deeper exploration.¹⁰

How Technological Advancement impacts Happiness ?

Well to answer this question, we could say that technology makes our day to day life easy and helpful. It makes us closer globally and enriched us with lots of knowledge. Besides this by doing unnecessary technological Advancement which is going to harm the humanity which ethically foul is not justified at all. There are researches which has shown that due to increase of using technology and technological Advancement there is lack in Happiness.

Philosophers who write about “*happiness*” typically take their subject matter to be either of two things, each corresponding to a different sense of the term: First ‘A state of mind’ and second ‘life that goes well for the person leading it.’ In the first case our concern is simply a psychological matter. What is this state of mind we call happiness? Typical answers to this question include life satisfaction, pleasure, or a positive emotional condition.¹¹ Happiness is a term which generally used in the context of mental or emotional states. It is also used in the context of satisfaction, subjective well-being, eudaimonia. In most general terms, technology is knowledge and happiness is a mental state. Over time, humans have become more cautious using technology due to concerns around privacy and security, which has been heightened during the pandemic. Number of illegal transactions or frauds had been done. Crime rates are increasing due to looting ATMs and forgery. To feel happy using a service, people must be able to trust it.

When we analyse how Technology benefits the happiness of human we found that Technology and consumerism, have not brought greater happiness to humanity, as most people had previously believed they would. “*Instead of richer and happier,*” he claims, “*we see that traditional economic development has actually made us poorer and un-happier.*” Indeed, history has shown us (very forcefully) that the pursuit of traditional economic development is actually the pursuit of un-happiness.^{12,13}

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¹¹ Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosophy 2020

¹² Allan Levite, Technology and Happiness 1998

¹³ Jay Hanson, The Woes of Modern Society

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