

Harmful and Beneficial Technologies- Cellular Phones and Batteries

Deciding on a specific piece of technology that is most harmful to the world is quite difficult, because there are several things that could be equally harmful in categories of health, economy, environment, government, education and society. My choice of cellular phones is one of many technologies that I feel affect more than one of these categories.

Cellular phones are a technology that allows people to be in more than one place without having physical presence in each one. The problem I see is that they make jobs more productive, which eliminates the need for more employees. With fewer employees come fewer buyers of products and services.

I believe that cellular phones are distractions that cause avoidable automobile accidents. A driver never knows when he needs an extra hand or eye to avoid a collision.

Accidents don't always have to be from distraction. I work for a travel center and from my experience I see that many people are unaware that in some states cellular phone usage is either illegal within a 25 ft. radius of a fuel pump or against fire safety policies. Any static electrical spark is just as dangerous as lighting a cigarette.

When it comes to the environment, phones themselves aren't necessarily harmful, but the transmit/receive towers are. More and more are being built for better coverage, which takes up space that could be used for natural environment.

Theft of a cellular phone can cause a major financial loss if unauthorized calls are made.

I personally own a cellular phone, and I have learned to hate it. I feel that it is easy to become a slave to it, and I leave it off until there is an emergency. Socially, cellular phones can distract people from their family, friends and loved ones who may be looking for quality time and understanding.

As I have said, I own a phone and there are probably as many advantages as disadvantages, but I also feel that they are addictive to many people who easily lose sight of the rest of their life, exposing more of the disadvantages. The advantages of a cellular phone could be retrieving medical help or road side assistance.

Beneficial technologies I would consider to promote good health, economy, environment, government, education and society. An example of a beneficial technology that I think of is a battery.

Batteries allow us to make many energy driven devices portable without the burning of fuels, therefore benefiting the environment. Flashlights, clocks, radios, phones, cameras, computers, etc. all use batteries. Batteries are used to power space probes and satellites for space exploration.

The disadvantage of batteries is the disposal of ones that are used and the price that increase as size becomes smaller and life becomes longer.

