

## Sociopolitical Issues

## QUOTES

You look at technology as a tool. We look at technology as a foundation – **it's totally integrated into what we do.**

School student cited by Marc Prensky (2007)

In a world in which everything seems to be 24/7 and on demand, **schools operate with rigid years, grades, terms and timetables.** That might have made sense when most people worked at the same time, many of them in the same place, on the same tasks, their lives organised by the factory siren. [...] **Traditional schools do too little to encourage individual initiative and collaborative problem-solving; learning is cut off from real-world experiences; teaching focuses too much on cognitive skills and too little on the soft skills of sociability, teamwork and mutual respect.**

Charles Leadbeater (2008)

Education is not like browsing through a grocer, picking up **the cheap, the delicious and the colourful.** It is life-changing – and tough. By displacing this struggle, **Internet learning has, so far, been a tragedy for education.** It is a relaxed, ill-focused environment for the students who can least manage this pedagogic plasticity.

Tara Brabazon (2002)

[T]eachers [are] a bigger threat to computers than computers are to teachers.

Ronald Ragsdale (1988), with ref. to Eggers & Wedman

"Nullification through partial assimilation"

Ronald Ragsdale (1988), with ref. to Bob Davis

[T]his is the first time in human history when children are authorities on something really important.

Don Tapscott & Anthony Williams (2006)

Youth culture becomes the **site of contest** between **the replication of the social order** (conformism) and **the resistance or rejection of pre-existing norms**.

[...]

[T]his intense concern about the behaviour of youth 'can be collapsed into a fear of the imperfect replication of the social order' (Acland, 1999).

Kate Crawford & Gerard Goggin (2008)

[There is a] dialectic of **youth-in-trouble** and **troubling-youth** [...]

Charles Acland (1995)

There have been more articles on MySpace predators than there's been reported predators online.

danah boyd cited in Kevin Poulsen (2006)

Continuous partial attention is an always on, anywhere, anytime, any place behavior that creates **an artificial sense of crisis**.

[...]

More and more, many of us feel the **"shadow side"** of cpa - **over-stimulation and lack of fulfillment**. The latest, greatest powerful technologies are now contributing to our feeling increasingly powerless.

Linda Stone (2008)

I personally believe that it is important to humanity to **connect peoples across the world** as widely as possible.

Tim Berners-Lee (2007)

It is a mistake to think that we have only two basic free transactional forms – property-based markets and hierarchically organized forms. We have three, and the third is **social sharing and exchange**.

Yochai Benkler (2006)

[These] are the roots of the web-inflated culture we inhabit: a peculiar mixture of **the academic, the hippie, the peasant and the geek**. What binds them is a belief in the power of communities to share knowledge and other resources. [...]  
[T]he culture being created by the web is a potent mixture of **post-industrial networks**, the **anti-industrial ideology** of the counter-culture and the revival of **pre-industrial ideas** of organisation that were marginalised in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Charles Leadbeater (2008)

People are awakening from their **consumerist coma**.

Cited by Lawrence Lessig (2006)

As economic policy, allowing **yesterday's winners** to dictate the terms of **tomorrow's economic competition** would be disastrous.

Yochai Benkler (2006)

The Net interprets **censorship as damage** and routes around it.

John Gilmore (1993)

Was it designed by the West for the West?

Tim Berners-Lee (2008)

[Wikipedia] is the **product not of collectivism but of unending argumentation**. The articles grow not from harmonious thought but from constant scrutiny and emendation.

Clay Shirky (2008)

We need to have places on the internet [...] to **disagree** with each other **safely**.

Jimmy Wales (2007)

It may be that there is no way to share technology and, at the same time, be so culturally relativist as to avoid any imposition of the values of the cultures providing the technologies. There may be no failsafe way to provide the **technological vehicles of communication** without their also becoming, in a sense, **ideological overseers of that communication**.

Martha McCormick (2007)