

On Technology, Population, and Society

Ted Kaczynski

Unknown

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I have read the articles on privacy in the April 17 issue of the Saturday Review and it seems to me that ~~articles in the April 17 issue of the Saturday Review~~ they all suffer from the same fault: They view the ~~problem~~ as an isolated problem rather than as an inevitable outcome of the kind of society we live in. They seem to ~~assume~~ ^{assume} that the problem has been created by ~~government and business~~ and that it can be solved by passing a few laws and establishing "safeguards". This out-of-date approach fails to recognize that the ~~loss of privacy~~ ¹³² and individual liberty is a ¹⁰⁰ result of the fundamental changes in our society that are being brought about by overpopulation by an ~~increasingly complex and centralized organization~~, and, most of all, by technological "progress". It is naive to imagine that the truly godlike powers that technology will put into human hands within the next few decades (computers with superhuman intellectual capacities, control over human thought, etc.) will not be used ~~to manipulate and watch over~~ for surveillance and manipulation of individuals - all "for the good of society", of course.

There is no hope of permanently arresting the erosion of privacy and liberty unless we attack the root causes involved. We must take vigorous

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measures to reverse the growth of our population and, more important, we must bring scientific progress in many areas to a halt by ceasing to provide research funds. If this can be done, there will be a realistic possibility of stopping the increase in the complexity of our social organization ~~and that~~ ^{that} actually makes necessary the ~~reversal of progress~~ ¹³⁰⁰. We will be sacrificing some of the materialistic benefits of technology, but there just isn't any other way ~~that we can eat our cake and have it too.~~

Maybe you think my views are extreme. Oka Wait thirty years and well see. But by then, of course, it will be ⁽³⁰⁰⁾ too late to do anything about it. ⁽³⁰⁸⁾

The Ted K Archive

A critique of his ideas & actions



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This is a draft of a letter to the editor of the Saturday Review.

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