Module 10 Journal

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Computers are integrated into just about everything we interact with every day in some way or to some extent. They definitely make life easier for most and create numerous opportunities that would not have been there before without their presence. They have made a ton of activities safer and more efficient, but at the same time they allow for much more destruction than we realize. The benefits certainly outweigh any detriment computers might bring to the world as long as computers are implemented with the right security features and kept up to date.

People are living much longer due to the help of computers being implemented in medical equipment (Scott-Clark Medical, 2018). They are able to monitor patients, help them breath, and alert nurses and doctors if anything goes wrong while no one is present in the room (Scott-Clark Medical, 2018). Computers have also lent a hand when it comes to weather predicting (Jean-Baptiste). This has allowed for safe evacuation of the population from zones that have been decimated by huge weather events such as hurricanes or tropical storms (Jean-Baptiste). Without this, many would have died. Finally, computers automate many processes in things like water treatment plants, power plants, and many other parts of our critical infrastructure (Cameron, 2018). These water treatment plants make sure we have clean drinking water, thus making the world a safer place where it is implemented. Without it we would contract many diseases or fight over clean drinking water. Ultimately, these computers are

helping with delivering clean drinking water to more than ever before. These advances in technology do not come without a price, however.

With how widespread the Internet of Things is, it is possible for one individual to do a lot of damage. It becomes even worse when a team of individuals works together to sabotage a company or nation state's infrastructure. Things like power grids are hackable because of the computer technology implemented into them (Cameron, 2018). This can be devastating and leave millions without power, and the same goes for water treatment plants (Cameron, 2018). "We have to find a way through public policy to deal with the asymmetric capability of a single actor to use the power of exponential to create an epidemic." (Farber, 2005). This quote applies today more than ever before.

Computers have also made it possible to genetically engineer plants and even viruses that could wipe out millions (Farber, 2005). If this technology and resources to do so were to fall into the wrong hands, many would suffer at the hand of the few. We can regulate this as much as we want with laws and policies, but hackers will always find a way to use this information to do massive damage (Farber, 2005).

So many individuals have access to the internet due to computers, and many are simply people who do not care about you (Bauman). They will steal your information and use it for their own benefit (Bauman). Computers have made this possible. Once you get on the internet, you are no longer safe in your own home. A cyber attack could come from anywhere, and this is a another way that computers have made the world less safe (Bauman).

Overall, the world is a safer place because of computers as long as the correct safety precautions are taken. Without them, computers become a weapon that can be hard to stop.

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