

Computer – Good or Bad?

In the 21st Century, computer becomes one of the most common tools for communication. At the same time, more and more internet crimes ranging from national to personal kinds are committed. Many people are worried that internet is harmful or even brutal to people in the world. However, are computers really so harmful? Don't they help our studies and work a lot? Let's look into the harms of computers first and then find out the advantages of computers.

Firstly, there is a large variety of internet crimes but the most concerned one is invading privacy. Many people are tricked when using internet services, such as e-mail, e-banking and online shopping. While they are using e-banking, they may be asked for personal information, like address, telephone number, credit card and ID card numbers. People who are less conscious will not check whether the website is fake and give their personal information. The information will be used for some fraudulent purposes, for example, borrowing loans or the thief will directly get money from bank using the password. This is a kind of infringement of privacy.

Cyber bullying is also one of the controversial internet crimes. Some teenagers are being bullied and recorded in video tape. The bullies then upload it to their blogs or Youtube and tease the victims. Also, some teenagers will leave foul language as comment in the victim's blog to boycott the victim. These actions do psychological harm to the victims as they will be afraid of going to school and facing the reality. Some of them will even suffer from autism. Thus, this is a serious crime due to the use of internet.

One other problem derived from the use of internet is illegal uploading and downloading. Teenagers can get in touch with so many materials through the internet, such as photos, music and videos. Following the trend of using MP3 players and iPod, illegal music downloading becomes a usual way to gain pop songs files. Also some people upload movies to the internet for others to download. The man arrested for illegally uploading hundreds of movies to the net is an example. These are actually in breach of the copyright law. A much more serious one is shown by the Edison Chen scandal. Artists' private photos are uploaded and published to the net but those are their privacy. They should

have the rights to stop circulating them. The citizens should be accused of disrespecting artists' privacy regarding to this issue and internet ethics is once again being concerned.

Though more and more crimes with the use of computer are committed, does the invention of computer and internet really harm our world? In fact, computer helps us a lot in our daily life.

One of the good uses of computer should be education. Students can learn more effectively in an interesting way through the net. Many educational organizations provide online exercises to students which allow them to learn, such as 'A Passage a Day'. Internet becomes a useful tool for education. Moreover, internet is commonly used for communication. People can share information and chat with people around the world using email and MSN. Businessmen usually communicate with clients around the world so the wide use of internet boosts international communication and trade.

Lastly, the internet provides us with a lot of entertainment, such as online games and given us a lot of information. We can find suggestions of where to go in holiday and the latest news around the world. Internet not only gives us convenience but also entertainment.

In conclusion, though internet crimes become very common, computer is still a useful invention of life.