

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND ITS USE IN THE CLASSROOM - A NECESSARY BOON OR UNWANTED BANE

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## ABSTRACT

*This article offers a critical overview of the cultural and educational benefits of the Information Technology era. It also looks into the dangers of the digital media especially for young people. It argues that the utopian concept of the multimedia age is more of a publicity hype and needs to be treated with caution. In contrast, there is a need for more measures and accounts of how young people perceive such technologies. It goes on to deal with previous research on children and pre-university students. The author calls for the need to pay importance to the transformation of learning, not only in theory but in the day to day practice of classrooms. Recent research into ICT and literacy is reviewed, with suggestions for practical possibilities for cross – cultural collaborations and implications for the future are considered.*

*Tajuk ini memberi satu pandangan kritis tentang kebaikan era teknologi maklumat dari segi kebudayaan serta pendidikan. Ia juga membincangkan tentang bahaya media elektronik khususnya dikalangan generasi muda. Menurut penulis kebanyakan dari janji-janji manis tentang era multimedia ini berupa publisiti dan perlu kajian mendalam. Yang lebih penting adalah langkah-langkah dan kajian tentang cara-cara kaum muda ini menerima teknologi sedemikian. Ia juga membincangkan tentang beberapa kajian lepas yang telah dibuat dikalangan pelajar sekolah dan pelajar University. Dengan itu, masyarakatan pendidik perlu memberi perhatian pada perubahan sistem pendidikan disebabkan media elektronik ini, dari segi teori serta amali. Kajian terbaru tentang ICT dan pendidikan juga diulas dengan cadangan untuk penggunaan yang lebih berkesan.*

***“Excellent and Inspirational teachers of English do not work best in a cage. A love of English is the last thing you need to teach to these orders and syllabuses that change from time to time.” – Andrew Goodwyn***

### **Key Words**

*Multimedia, ICT, literacy, digital technology*