

2017 International Essay Contest for Young People

[Children's Category – Honorable Mention]

The Concept of Natural Togetherness

(Original)

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This modern world has changed the habits of people. Not only that, even this modern world is capable of influencing our interactions with others. Those interactions are very close and very easy connected now. However, do we realize that all that is just a physical proximity? In fact, many people are rarely even altogether unable to share stories with their own family simply because of their personal busyness. Job demands make everyone's 'quality time' spent on their work. Not just job demands, gadget, a familiar object for many people, is an object that is considered more valuable compared to the time of togetherness of many people. This is very unfortunate because such habits make people around us just have been ignored.



Pict.1: Don't care with the others // www.pulsk.com

I have seen myself how gadgets has stretched our interactions to each other. At first glance it looks like we play together, learn together, exchange stories, and so forth. However, if most of our attention is directed to the gadget, then the interaction looks more

like an interaction between a robot to a robot, there is no 'human feels' of interaction like this. I have also contemplated a few things. Why do we pay too much attention to things like that? While Steve Jobs, the 'Apple' inventor doesn't allow his children to play his gadgets at home. He did that because he realized that his gadgets would make the interaction with his children to be more tenuous. If Steve Jobs does that, then why we think differently?

Fortunately we have nature. Nature is one of the best teachers that can teach and inspire many things to human beings. One concept that is owned by nature is togetherness. Suppose you see an ecosystem component complement each other, what do you feel? Seeing the ants out of the nest for feeding, while talking about something that is hard to hear is a small sample of togetherness possessed by nature. Would not it be wonderful if such small things we make as our daily habits? Greeting people on the street even with a smile, as well as respecting the other person without sharing his or her attention with the gadget, is a very nice and very beautiful thing to do.



Pict.2: Interact with the others // www.hipwee.com

To support that idea, an innovation is needed. We can create an innovation by imitating the concept of animals and plants that exemplify the attitude of togetherness. Like a blind ant, when he meets one another, then we will see their heads touching each other. They rely on "feelers" antennas in their heads to send and receive other ant signal by touch. We can create technology from the concept. Maybe a bracelet can talk when we shake hands. If our hand shakes the other's hand, the bracelet will praise the person, probably like "You're very happy today" or "you're nice". Do you know? That little praise like that is one way to appreciate the people around us. Because the person we are talking to will feel appreciated, then he will feel comfortable to interact with us. In addition, shaking hands also have scientific benefits. As mentioned in the 'Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience', that when we

shake hands, the brain will produce endorphin hormones (happiness) that give a sense of happiness when meeting and shaking hands with others.



Pict. 3: Shake hand // www.articletodayblog.blogspot.com

There are many things from nature that we can learn the concept of togetherness. For that, make this togetherness concept as an innovation to develop technology that is able to support togetherness and interaction of each person. "When the world is filled with people who value togetherness, give each other joy, and respect each other, it means that you have seen a wonderful world".