

2020 International Essay Contest for Young People

[Children's Category – Honorable Mention]

Less Quantity

(Original)

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Dear Alex,

How has life been in 2020? Are you still passionate about becoming a software developer? I don't want to stop your dream (software developers are very much needed in 2030) but working as a software developer is laborious.

Currently, in the year 2030, I am working as a software developer in America, but I'm not as rich as you wanted to become. I wake up at 6:00 AM daily and don't sleep until 1:00 AM. I don't have my own company yet, so I am working for other companies like Machine X (a company that develops software and machines) and Dynamite (a company that creates electronics and games). My house is filled with technology and I have enough money to sustain my life, but that does not mean that I am happy with my life right now. That's a dilemma that millions of other people are facing today.

You might think that life is easier because people rely on robots or AI to make life convenient, but in reality, life is not what you expect. Millions of people have challenges dealing with technology because it's so advanced. Therefore, people like me have to solve their challenges; it's a tremendous amount of work. Also, there are still many people who are struggling because they cannot afford the technology which is such an impactful part of most people's lives. Like everything, there are risks and advantages to new technologies, but I think the risks are bigger.

Not only does the new technology separate the rich and poor financially, but technology has also damaged our environment. The problems began when a scientist named David Willsh made a mechanism, called Project: 5, that can create products using airborne particles, and if you insert a formula, the mechanism can create whatever you want and need. I thought that this project was brilliant. However, "Project: 5" led to more greed and power and also furthered the divide between the haves and the have-nots. Now, I can see

why some people should not have the freedom to create whatever they want. The people who are too poor to afford "Project: 5" are struggling in life while the people who can are getting richer. With this "Project: 5", there were issues that caused further consequences in society. Everyone used "Project: 5" to create money, weapons and drugs. This endless manufacturing destroyed our environment - extracted its resources and then polluted it with waste.

What this means for me is that I need to do more work. A long time ago, I thought that developing software would be fun. But now, I feel evil because I help people by repairing machines that harm the environment. Should I quit my job and my dream because people misuse the technology? To answer this question, I came up with a different goal in my life.

Now, my goal is to help the poor become less vulnerable. For example, yesterday I helped the people who were poor get more access to making essentials they needed. While doing this, I learned one life lesson that I didn't understand ten years ago. The rich want more and the poor crave for less. The poor that I met were happy just by tasting small pieces of food while some people create trash that they don't need.

I want to tell you that you should only use what you need and use it efficiently. You don't need all the money in the world or thousands of products to become happy. Currently, people compete and think they are superior to others by the quantity of their objects. They think they deserve more respect than others because they have more than others. However, you should know that all you need in life is to take something that you created and use it to make your life more interesting and contented.

From, 23 year old Alex Jung