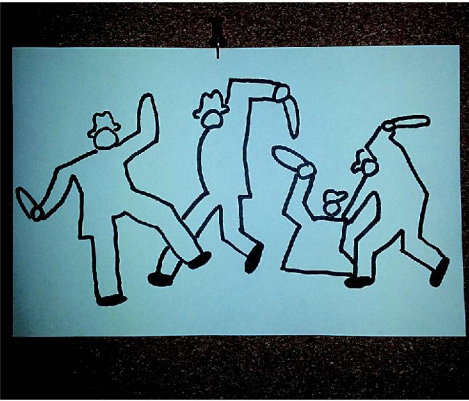


Putting an End to Police Misconduct

Many people believe that policemen protect and ensure the safety of others by expelling criminals from our society. To some extent this belief is true, but not entirely. There are instances when the people we rely on most to protect us partake in corrupt and violent acts. According to the National Police Misconduct Statistics and Reporting Project, nearly 6,000 reports of misconduct have been recorded in 2010. Wrongful conviction, discrimination, and sexual abuse are just a few examples of police misconduct. This looming issue within our entire nation is still prevalent, and people must be informed that our local guardians are not always the good Samaritans people believe them to be.

The death of Kelly Thomas in 2011 is a shameful example of a wrongfully convicted homeless man who was beaten to death by three Fullerton policemen. Although Thomas



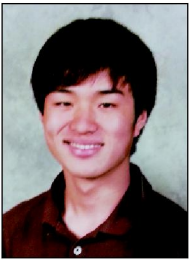
has had a history of numerous encounters with the Fullerton Police Department and suffers from mental illness, he did not deserve to be harshly beaten to death. A video of this event shows policeman Officer Ramos threatening Thomas with his fists and Thomas screaming in

pain helplessly, “Dad! Dad!” as Ramos and another policeman beat him.

Thomas was taken to St. Jude Medical Center in Fullerton and later transferred to UC Irvine Medical Center with severe injuries throughout his body. According to one of the paramedics at the time, Thomas was laying unconsciously in a pool of blood. Five days after his beating, his life support was removed and he died on July 5th. The policemen involved, Manuel Ramos and Jay Cicinelli were arrested for murder charges but later acquitted pleading not guilty of any charges.

This instance is a tragedy, an outrage, and a wake up call that we need to end police misconduct. No one should ever experience such cruelty and violence, especially from our so-called “protectors”. Regardless, we should not label all policemen as corrupt scoundrels; we

should only become informed of this phenomenon in order for us to take the steps to end police misconduct. Ways in which we can fight this issue include voting for politicians who address police misconduct and sharing recordings of these videos through social media sites. Any contribution to the addressing of this issue will allow for us to take the necessary steps in regulating these crimes against humanity.



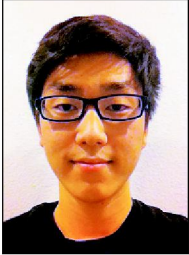
Ryan Lee
Harvard Westlake
11th Grade

The Impact of Technological Changes



Technological advancements in society can be a mixed blessing. Although technology can bring propitious advantages for human kind, it also can create adverse effects towards our working economy. For instance, the creation of a machine to conduct labor causes a whole slew of businesses close down and workers to lose jobs as a result of these detrimental ramifications.

Brynjolfsson, a professor at the MIT Sloan School of Management, has been arguing for the last year and a half that improvements in computer technology have caused the lethargic economy we face today. In addition, he has also perceived an economic pattern stating that, “as businesses generate more value from their workers, the country as a whole becomes richer, which fuel more economic activity and create even more jobs.” However, a



Brad Lee
South High School
10th Grade

huge divergence between employment and productivity became coherent by 2011. Even though there was a rising action in productivity there were fewer jobs available because of technology.

Borders bookstore, which closed down on October 14, 2011, is a prime example of how technology had shut down a business. The prominent chain had to file for bankruptcy back in February 16, 2011 due

to too much debt. But how did this particular bookstore file for bankruptcy rather than a store such as Barnes and Noble? Technology had a key impact through this. As e-books became more common, there was a dramatic decrease of sales by 14%. Luckily, Barnes and Nobles was quick to react by creating their own Nooks in 2009 while Borders created an online e-book store in 2010.

In the medical field, technological advances have also affected dental laboratories. The traditional way of creating crowns by dental technicians is now considered an antiquated process. The invention of 3-D digital scanners has proven itself as a more efficient and nimble alternative to producing crowns for people’s teeth. As a result, 4,000 dental laboratories have closed down and a striking 10,000 labs are expected to close in the following year. Through these two businesses, technology causes an inimical affect in our working class today. As society progresses towards the future, we might even see robots working for us rather than human beings. Technology is truly a double edged sword that can either impact humanity or harm the economy.

Clash of the Subjects

Within the past decade, the United States education system has undergone frequent changes. From state budget cuts to decreasing standardized test results, the overall quality of education has arguably worsened. The first programs to be cut from the curriculum are related to the arts and humanities. Young students are often left unsure of the reasons behind these removals, and left wondering why exposure to these opportunities are no longer being offered in public institutions.

Affected by lowered funds, schools in the state of California have shown a decrease in the human-culture field. Nearly half of the districts have whittled away various art, drama, and music programs, putting an emphasis on the remaining core subjects like Math, Science, English, and History. In 2012, student reporters from the Los Angeles based newspaper program, L.A. Youth, conducted surveys on their campuses about the budget cuts. On a list of activities that students believed should be dismissed, the school newspaper or a broadcast outlet placed first, while programs for the arts and music ranked seventh among twelve choices. In another part of the survey, 97 percent said they are planning to attend college after high school. Although only 13 percent stated that lowering school budgets hardly affected their ability to receive adequate graduation credits, cuts to these programs have shown to affect students’ college readiness.

In a report by the Campaign for America’s Future, evidence suggests that lowered

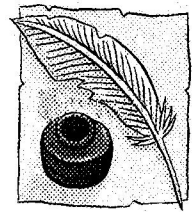


education funding has led to cutbacks from early childhood programs, increases in class sizes, and the termination of art, music, and physical education. Concerned parents have increasingly inquired about the reasons for these cuts, wondering when their children will have the same opportunities they had when they were younger. Now, students are searching for extracurricular activities at the expense of costly transportation and packed daily schedules.

Whether these programs have the ability to survive relies on state legislations and government subsidies; however, many non-profit organizations and groups have acted to support a revival in the humanities-related curricula. But for the next few years, a battle for these activities is seemingly inevitable as what is desired and what is necessary.



Claire S. Lee
Golden Valley High School
11th Grade



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◆ 아 래 ◆

1. 응모부문 및 상금

부분		단 편 소 설	생 활 수 기	시
내 용				
제 한 분 량		200자 원고지 70매 내외 (컴퓨터 원고는 반드시 A4 용지로 출력)	200자 원고지 50매 내외 (컴퓨터 원고는 반드시 A4 용지로 출력)	3편 이내 (컴퓨터 원고는 반드시 A4 용지로 출력)
상 금	당선작	1편 \$2,000	1편 \$1,000	1편 \$1,000
	가 작	2편 각 \$1,000	1편 \$500	2편 각 \$500
	장려상		1편 \$300	2편 각 \$200

2. 마감일자 : 2014년 4월 26일 (토요일) 마감일 소인 유효

3. 보내실 곳 : The Korea Times 4525 Wishire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90010

4. 당선작 발표 : 2014년 6월 7일 (토요일)

5. 시 상 : 6월말~7월초 (추후개별통보)

6. 문 의 : (323)692-2000, 2068

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