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Texting: Good for Humans

A text is a worded message that can be sent from one person to another using a mobile device. The ability to text is a positive advancement for the world in that it allows effective communication to happen faster. Texting is a tool that helps today's teenagers to be more emotionally adjusted than previous generations, and can also help save lives. However, texting can be harmful when driving or when used to hurt others.

Texting helps teenagers become more emotionally adjusted. In today's generation, teenagers have gained more social networking skills through texting, Facebook, Snapchat, and even Instagram. "Today's plugged-in teens and tweens may be more emotionally adjusted than previous generations for passive couch potatoes whose only technological accomplishment was to change the channel (Buffalo News)." Social networking programs such as Facebook help people, mostly teenagers, around the world stay connected with family and friends. Also, on Snapchat, you can take pictures and add text to communicate with others. Adults and teenagers can text each other to let each other know about activities and opportunities. This social networking "brings her in contact with like-minded people she might never have found otherwise, or help him find the activity, the summer job, the college that will offer the best opportunity for real growth (Buffalo News)." Teenagers that don't have jobs but have friends that have jobs can text them and ask if there are any open jobs. Teens getting ready to go to college can ask their friends about their college experiences.

Texting saves lives and caves. Texting helps others communicate with each other when something goes wrong they're in need of help. "A remarkable teenager in Mexico has invented a device that may significantly speed the rescue process by allowing cavers to text from deep underground (Hansen)." People that get into trouble while underground could soon use texting as a faster way to

have others find them and bring the right kind of help. This would be better than having to lay down miles of telephone wire during a rescue in order to communicate with surface rescuers. They wouldn't have to send for and wait for the right kind of help once rescuers reach injured people, resulting in shorter rescue times and lives saved. Texting technology can also help preserve sensitive environments. "People contaminate the sensitive cave environment just by being there. [By] connecting data recorders to a [texting] radio scientists could remotely transmit information about cave environments (Hansen)." It has been found that in caves there are microorganisms that create antibiotics. When people are just present in the cave, it eventually destroys the antibiotics. The radio would prevent their destruction, saving them for research.

Texting while driving is common but distracting and dangerous. In the U.S., states with a certain percentage of drivers that text while driving are ranked from highest to lowest. "The worst offenders are apparently found in South Carolina, where 40% said they were guilty of DWT, driving while texting. The least troublesome were in Arizona (Holden)." Even though texting while driving is illegal in many states, it's still a common practice. In the new, you often hear about people that die from TWD accidents. Not only is texting while driving dangerous and distracting but so is fiddling with the radio or even talking on the phone. These actions can cause many people to lose their lives. "More than 3,900 people lost their lives in 2010 as a result of distracted driving. More than 400 lives were lost as a result of crashes involving teen drivers who were distracted (Genachowski)." When you're driving, anything that makes anyone take their eyes off the road, even for a second, can cause distracted driving. This can include eating, switching music in your iPod or the radio, and the option that causes the most death tolls, texting.

If anyone texts too much, they end up forgetting how to communicate politely or even face to face. People and kids spend too much time online which can lead to certain communication problems. "People might spend so much time online that they stop talking face to face, forgetting how to read the

faces and voice tones of real people (Buffalo News).” Nowadays, teenagers are getting to be more impolite when they talk to each other. Some don’t even talk to each other but text him/her when they’re in the same room. Rumors can spread around really fast, but texting rumors is a faster and easier way to hurt someone. “Just as word of mouth rumors around the schoolyard might wound a young soul, World Wide Web assassination can be, quite literally, deadly (Buffalo News).” Whether at school, work, or at home, rumors can be spread through texts. If someone texts another person saying something rude about another person, that comment could go viral.

Texting is a more helpful source to communicate and do other things much faster than calling or mailing. Even though texting can be distracting and even deadly when used improperly, there are still so many good things about it. Teenagers and kids get more socially involved and emotionally adjusted through the networks they can build through texting. There are opportunities to find out what’s going on in work places, and find out what activities there are in your community. People can easily stay connected with their family and friends. Texting can even help save lives and the environment. All in all, texting is an efficient way to communicate that benefits humans.

Works Cited

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