

OPEN BOOK ASSESSMENT

BMSW4005 – Professional career development

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Do you think technology is a threat to a man's existence? ***Explain with practical examples***

Nowadays, technology is useful and accessible, one might say fundamental, categorizing it as a primary necessity.

Technology has a broad range of benefits, giving people the opportunity to work remotely: our world is evolving at a fast pace, everything is changing, and we all need to keep up with it. We live in a world where retooling has become the norm, and new skills are needed day by day; having the opportunity to connect with employees via social media platforms such as MS Teams, has enabled employers to offer their staff the needed training via an online meeting, instead of having to organize an in-person meeting that would require more time and effort.

Like everything, technology has a lot of downsides too.

Productivity has also exponentially increased, because 'jobs are done on the move, at any time of day, in almost any location', this is a benefit for employers and their businesses, but creates a very thin line in their employees lives, that separates private life from work life, leaving no balance to it. People are increasingly searching for defined boundaries between work and private life. 57 per cent of employees states that the opportunity for them to work in flexible hours is important to them; this proportion is growing, especially for those who are parents. and workers with caring responsibilities. People born between 1980 and 2000 (generation Y), have grown up almost entirely in the digital age will increase this bringing it to a 92 per cent, naming flexibility as priority when looking for a place to work.

Technological innovation is rapidly advancing, and the number of jobs is declining, as automation, robotics and AI are doing tasks that were previously assigned to employees, leaving them unemployed. This springs the feeling of income uncertainty in people, bringing no financial safety and the urge to stay on top of the latest trends, alert that their job might become useless for their company.

This is what brings social unrest, employees feel like they are in agony competing with technological power, always trying to renew their skills, to be able to fit into the 'highly skilled individuals', and keep their workplace, allowing greater autonomy and a better balancing of work and family life. This agony is influenced by the drive of being able to claim security of employment, in fact, low-skilled workers compete ferociously for their work positions. As technology grants a longer life, older people will need to work for longer, taking up workplaces from the younger generations, who are trapped in low-level positions.

In conclusion, technology is and will gradually become even more, a competition for human beings, threatening their ability to work and bring something useful to their companies, but will never be an actual threat to man's existence, as it is a human being who gives a computer or a robot's the commands it needs to finish a task, because artificial intelligence will never be as precise as a human brain, not being able to bring creative and innovative ideas.

Referencing:

Peyton-Jones, T (2018) 'The Future of Work: Jobs and Skills in 2030' available at:
https://moodle.uwtsd.ac.uk/pluginfile.php/601340/mod_resource/content/1/the_future_of_work_in%202030.pdf?redirect=1