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Technology

(Its Pros and Cons)

IMPORTANT NOTICE: The author has suddenly died. To finish this work, I, Model SXGNHFSFGH584030-554358633 of the robotic human replication series, am hereafter interacting with the late author's readership....
.....just kidding.

Technology has caused incredible changes. However, there was never a magic moment where society jumped from non-technological to technological. This goes for every aspect of technology, which no single person invented; rather, all technology has evolved.

The Godsend of Technology

Though technology hasn't changed human nature one iota, life has improved overall. For example, machines replace former slaves. In countries that lack technology, slavery continues. Before the invention of bulldozers, combine harvesters, cranes, forklifts, tractors, and suchlike, people had to do the work that these machines do, hence the desire for slaves. In developed countries, even heartless people wouldn't want slaves. Each slave would have to be fed and housed, would need to use the toilet, could get sick, and could possibly retaliate, yet have the work output of only one man. Today one person could drive a machine or a machine could drive itself, doing the work of a hundred men.

Concerning crime, the ancient world had no fingerprinting, DNA analysis, forensic science, interrogation and cross-examination techniques, polygraphs, video cameras and suchlike. Prosecution was difficult without an eyewitness. Without telephones, police couldn't be called nor could the police adequately communicate with each other.

Besides, peasants worked in isolation hunched over large fields where men on horseback with swords and clubs could ride past and completely dominate them. Their one story all-wooden houses filled with hay could be quickly destroyed. Today most people work inside a building surrounded by coworkers. We have high rises made with steel and concrete, replete with burglar alarms and video cameras, and can lock buildings from the outside.

Yesterday's problems rested on lack of technology, not from lack of psychotherapy sessions, or not being fully evolved. So may useful technology become universal. Since attempts to influence human behavior are not enough to alleviate others' suffering, let's help eliminate situations that abet human suffering if possible. Although technology betters human lives overall, many aspects of technology are harmful or destructive. Consider the following innovations:

Machinery

Most machinery is wonderful. As noted, it basically ended slavery. However, jobs can be more problematic in our industrialized world. From rapid technological changes caused by breakneck competition, men with learning disabilities cannot maintain the pace of computerized technology, having been demoted and relegated to menial jobs suitable only for teenagers. Most farmhands have lost their jobs altogether, since complicated machines do their work.

If robots become commonplace they will certainly take men's jobs. And schools may need restructuring to accommodate robotics as they were restructured to accommodate computers. Many men willing and able to do hard physical labor cannot understand complicated machinery, and jobs that predominantly require physical labor have become scarce and low-paying. Financial compensation by the government so they can survive and retain their dignity of supporting a household and family would uphold a fair ethic.

Concerning telephones, they are generally great machines. However, cell phones are potentially dangerous, since many people think it's perfectly okay to be immersed in a phone conversation or text while driving. Others think it's okay to talk on the phone in libraries or movie theaters, or have it ring in church. Some telephones ring incessantly from bothersome telemarketing, political, or dubious charity calls. Although some calls can be stopped by entering a Do Not Call registry, unfortunately not all can. So be considerate of others.

Television

Television commercials with an elevated volume comprise about forty-five percent of the programming. This time-waster provokes constantly getting up and down and going into the refrigerator and cupboards to overeat. Even with recording devices, there's the bothersome pre-recording, fast-forwarding, and going back and forth if you forward too far or not enough.

Television is a monologue, never a dialogue. It instructs you and you cannot reply. "T.V." never stops talking. This often involves objectionable content and bad, degrading programming which is ever-present and tempting to watch; much content is un-Christian. Besides, your monthly cable bill pays for commercials and undesirable programming, not just shows you watch. Wholesome religious programming is available, but it's variously for marital problems, children, adult singles, televised Mass for elderly shut-ins and whatnot. So no matter who you are, most content is not for you. There are also dubious and controversial religious programs.

There are excellent channels featuring classic movies. However, they aren't found on regular television or basic cable. One must pay more for a premium package, which often grants access to pornographic content which cannot be blocked.

In America there's very little international news besides biased warfare reports on the Israeli/Arab conflict. News consists mostly of shootings, fires, and the city mayor's proposals, while suburban and country folks are ignored. All of American television is politically biased, "reality" shows are fake, and loud televisions disturb others.

So get rid of your television, and get a giant screen for your computer. Computers can often do what televisions do, and more. Television didn't even exist before 1935, while people lived and thrived. Replacing "the idiot box" with reading may seem untenable at first, but with diligent practice, reading can be preferred.

Personal Computers

Computers are a miracle, although they open Pandora's Box. Most computer users have been victimized by Internet crime, often a simple matter of acquiring a computer virus from a hacker, which eventually slows or stops computer functioning. Others send money for a product that never arrives. Sometimes victimization is far more serious. In the United States, if you order an item online and the party doesn't send it, or you get nothing from a paid social connection service, contact the Attorney General for the state you reside in and fill out a complaint form which generates results.

The most commonly accessed subject is sex and pornography. Besides being addictive, pornographic websites have viruses attached to them much more often than do regular websites. Now millions of men, and some women, are hooked on this harmful degeneracy, including devout Christian believers.⁽¹⁾ Perhaps a content filter can be obtained which blocks pornographic websites from coming through. If you'd benefit from a content filter, let not anyone dissuade or shame you. We don't have vials of cocaine and heroin lying around, and simply discipline ourselves not to open them and partake of their contents; we try to end that possibility. Being human, "Make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; let it rather be healed" (Hebrews 12:13).

Internet gambling can be worse than traditional gambling. It's sometimes more addictive because this vice is now available anywhere there's a computer. In regular casinos, others can't see your cards. But as for internet gambling, what's stopping the house from seeing your cards??! If governments cared about morality, they would censor Internet gambling, make all gambling illegal, and punish its promoters. If a father gambles away his money, his family's lives are also wrecked.

"Social networking" (or "antisocial networking") sites are a vast wasteland. Older people feel free to act like teenagers, such as middle-aged women fawning over "hot" guys. People often use these sites to boast about their family and success with relationships, which puts down others who aren't successful in that area. Others brag about their job status, or other accomplishments like getting a pilot's license. Messages are usually hastily written, shallow, fragmented, and misspelled. Cyber-bullying is also rampant. And you may confide in someone one on one, but unbeknownst to you, the message becomes public. You can waste your time collecting hundreds of "friends" on such sites, or use your free time interacting with people face to face.

On rare occasions long-lost friends and family members are reunited. However, for a small fee to a research company, they could have been reunited anyway. Besides, research companies are a much better source of finding out information than social networking sites. Though it's free to sign up for "social networking" sites, the owners are billionaires. So many people inadvertently pay one way or another. Influencing others on such networking sites seems untenable, unless you're a business owner hawking a product or service. Also, e-mail communication often replaces face-to-face or telephone communication. Since computers can be addictive, you can limit your computer usage, by buying a WI-FI computer which must be used outside the home, and cancel your home Internet service.

Landscaping

Historically, only the idle rich had lawns. Being able to afford large tracts of unused and worthless land was the equivalent of giving the middle finger to other classes, as the rich could buy whatever they wanted without using their own land to grow or produce it.

Horticulture dramatically decreased since advanced farming techniques allowed a much smaller number of farmers to produce the previous amount at cheaper rates. Coupled with the invention of the lawnmower, lawns became a status symbol for the common people. So even non-farmland: dynamic quilts of wildflowers, milkweeds, cattails, tall prairie grass, hills, multicolored pebbles, and bubbling streams are now replaced by barren flat squares of chemical-soaked one inch turf-grass subject to browning, along with fences and no trespassing signs. We have idolized our ability to control our environment and worship ourselves. Besides, advanced techniques of harvesting and animal husbandry will be countermanded if we don't address overpopulation, which will eventually make food sources more expensive, not less.

Modern lawn equipment is an abomination. Many people blast incredibly loud leaf blowers unnecessarily, walking in slow motion while blowing one or two leaves instead of clearing piles. Some people also blow after designated hours, resulting in blowers blasting relentlessly, ten hours a day seven days a week in some areas. Even with earplugs they're very loud. Their noise evades getting used to, since instead of a steady noise, they change pitch and are stopped and started. Imagine how loud it is for bird's sensitive eardrums or for those working second or third shifts who sleep in the daytime. Others may be reading or studying. Besides noise pollution, dirt is kicked up which may offend allergy sufferers.

Though leaf blowing may beat raking, gasoline powered leaf blowers are unnecessary. They make two noises: the gasoline motor and the blower, which can be replaced by electric leaf blowers which are less noisy, since only the blower is heard. Driveways can be swept with four foot wide shop brooms, which can be ordered online. They're as efficient as leaf blowers regarding pavement clearing, eventually paying for themselves several times over, since they last a lifetime and never use gasoline or electricity. Constructing a "leaf plow," similar to a snow shovel but three times wider and twice as deep, might also help clear leaves.

Unnecessary use of phallic noise bazookas, chainsaws, excessive vacuuming, hammering, and suchlike call attention to oneself as if one is trumpeting like a god. Instead, the noise that should be made is a

joyful noise unto the Lord. Besides, offending people is un-Christian. In theologian C. S. Lewis' fanciful book *The Screwtape Letters*(2), one demon writes to another that he despises both music and silence. He is thankful that Hell is always extremely noisy, as noise is the audible expression of ruthlessness, which defends them from lovely thoughts by drowning them out. He also writes that the demonic goal is to develop ways to make Earth just as noisy. Another reason that noise dominates is that people are distracting themselves from having to face life's ultimate questions and their own mortality.

Environmental Destruction

Besides killing unwanted bugs and weeds, pesticides also endanger the butterfly, ladybug, and other creatures of God put here to provide beauty and diversity in accordance with His plan. Insects perform vital functions such as removing debris from the ecosystem, and are integral components of nature by digesting feces and breaking down dead plants and animals. Without them our ecosystem functions ineffectively and becomes threatened. Pesticide use on dandelions (a minor annoyance which can actually be a food source) isn't worth the toxins that pesticides leach into other areas and water supplies. As leaf blowers, chainsaws, wood chippers, and jackhammers cause noise pollution, pesticides create bio-hazards. Modern lawns suffer from chemical abuse.

While prideful man constructs colossal temples to himself, millions of birds die annually from crashing into buildings, and millions are crippled or weakened. Clear glass is dangerous for birds, who often see only what is beyond the glass. Consequently, unsuspecting birds often fly straight into windows and glass doors at full speed. Coated reflective glass can also be a problem, since sometimes birds may see reflections of the surrounding area in the glass, not the glass itself. Home and building owners can sacrifice their view somewhat by attaching visible matter no more than four inches apart vertically and two inches apart horizontally.

Dozens of power plants among North America's Great Lakes kill millions of fish annually. They work by pulling in water which cools their equipment but also pull in fish. Intense heat and pressure destroy the fish before they can escape. This destruction can be curtailed, such as by investing in cooling towers and implementing slower rates of water intake, allowing most fish to escape. Relocating plants off shore away from where fish congregate is another possibility.

As for strip mining and butchering trees with chainsaws, this rape of the earth should require a detailed explanation. Yet some promote the illogical view that nature is completely self-sufficient and that destroying nature is sanctioned by God. How long will we continue to allow God's Earth to disintegrate as corporate America wallows in greed? Let's be Christ-like and not degrade God's green earth with our selfish, money-driven agendas, respecting the world but not being worldly.

Alternative Energy Sources

Years ago, coal was used so much that the daytime became as dark as nighttime, and people were choking on filth. That's what it took to pursue an alternative energy source. However, petroleum converted into gasoline and heating gas is used so much that wars are fought over oil. Petroleum having spilled into oceans has done massive amounts of damage to our ecosystem, and gasoline and heating gas prices have quadrupled. Yet society resists further advancements.

Nuclear energy would be a tremendous source of alternative energy. However, nuclear plants are exceedingly dangerous at present, on account of nuclear waste. Thorium plants would have the same problem.(3,4) Yet evidently, God expected us to develop nuclear power, since numerous naturally occurring elements have no known use outside of nuclear power plants. So a solution would be closing the fuel cycle. This would be achieved by building different types of reactors. You would take the depleted unusable fuel from one reactor, which would otherwise be hazardous waste, and feed it through another reactor; take the unusable by-product from that reactor and have it fuel a third type of reactor, and so on, until all fuel was completely used or rendered harmless.(5) Closed systems would be the most efficient, cleanest, and safest forms of energy. Solar power in sunny climates, windmill power, and other methods should also be utilized.

Motorized Vehicles and Alternatives

Motorized vehicles are an abomination: the primary cause of pollution, premature death, paralysis in wheel-chairs, being in trouble with the police, aggravation, traffic jams, road rage, car accidents, horns blasting, breakdowns, repairs, traffic tickets, parking problems, the need for insurance, and need for petroleum as noted previously. Cars also cripple and kill animals on the road and make possible and encourage several types of crime and immorality. Their expense is higher per hour than the average rent expense per hour. Motorized vehicles promote antisocial behavior since families spend less time together, and friends move away via moving vans and trucks. Roads, parking lots and garages take away space from the natural environment. Car-pooling and better public transportation would improve things, but only temporarily if the population increases, bringing us back to the original congestion.

An immediate but only partial solution is bicycling in good weather. However, uppity homeowners, companies, apartment complexes, and subdivisions do not want bicycles kept in front of the residence. And bike riding in the big city is often too dangerous when almost everyone else drives cars and trucks. Non-cooperation prevents progress.

For the first sixty years of the automobile, most men could fix their own car. With cars becoming increasingly complicated, chiefly from electronic components, the days of the "shade tree mechanic" are over. Perhaps if fully efficient, completely electronic cars debut, they will be as difficult to repair as doing brain surgery. The average person might not be able to afford or maintain one (assuming efficient electronic vehicles are possible). Besides, they would have some of the same problems as gas-powered cars, and might not be available before sources of petroleum are exhausted. Therefore.....

God's creation the horse is superior to atrocious gas guzzlers. If you think this method of transportation would be inconvenient, think how inconvenient cars are to those killed in wars over petroleum. Ask parents how inconvenient cars are in light of their children killed in accidents. Ask those paralyzed in wheel-chairs from car accidents how inconvenient cars are. Children and pets have died of heatstroke after being left in hot cars with their windows up. Children have lost fingers and have even been killed when automatic windows closed on them.

Besides, many roads, designed to slow down drivers, are so twisting and meandering that they triple the length of a straight road. If you went into town via horse and carriage on a straight road from your subdivision, you'd actually get there faster than driving on a road scrambled into spaghetti with speed postings. In various cities, striking truckers have parked sideways, completely shutting down car travel.

Self-feeding horses would eliminate pumping gas, along with petroleum refinery plants, gas stations, car dealerships, auto repair shops, and junkyards, which blanket the landscape. Horses are self-reproducing, which would eliminate automotive plants. If they bump together, their bodies are flexible, unlike cars, which become twisted wrecks. Their bodies are more efficient than cars, eliminating auto mechanics and tow trucks. Reverting to horses would also eliminate traffic lights, speed traps, and traffic courts. Horse drawn cutters or sleighs in winter would eliminate trucks pouring tons of road salt or sand. Reverting to horses would also decrease the amount of road construction because horses don't require roads in pristine condition since they lift their feet when they walk. Yet some towns are seemingly satisfied that twenty-five mile sections of local roads are torn apart nine months every year; unbelievable.

You may think that invisible clouds of poison gas that move with the wind, radiator fluid which poisons animals who drink it, burnt rubber, waste oil, and demand for petroleum which spills into oceans is better than dealing with horse manure. Yet consider that today's construction vehicles can quickly scoop up masses of horse manure, an exceptional source of plant fertilizer. I enjoyed smelling horse manure, because it triggered memories of school field trips where I would escape going to classes the entire day.

The one in three hundred or so people required to operate waste removal vehicles is far different than **everybody** driving a motorized vehicle, as carrying a one kilo weight differs from carrying a two hundred kilo weight. Since the earliest cars could only go very slowly, we know it wasn't for convenience. People are prideful, not wanting to view horse manure and such. And cars are undoubtedly the greatest con-

tributor to global warming, which might destroy the planet in several hundred years if not curtailed. If society puts away its pride and selfishness, and cooperates with one another before our natural world is completely destroyed, we'd truly be an advanced society. Electric trolleys are another option, proposed by someone who recognizes the madness of automobiles in the show *Adam Ruins Cars*.⁶

Life Expectancy and Modern Medicine

“We all know that cavemen only lived to be 25, people in the Middle Ages only lived to age 40, with modern advancements people lived to 50 by 1850, and thanks to the second God of modern medicine, we live to 75! If we only had the first God, we'd still only live to 25.” Although this declaration is a caricature, this idea is commonly accepted in roundabout ways of putting it. This is fiction; people lived to 75 throughout history.

Life expectancy statistic charts supposedly document giant advancements in longevity, facilitated by humans themselves. However, life expectancy statistics contradict each other. With so many different tables of statistics, it's easy to exclude the ones that contradict your position and only include ones that support it. There's also disagreement over including or excluding people of different races.

Regardless, the reason why the life expectancy average was lower long ago was due to high infant and child mortality rates. For adults, that should not have been factored in, giving them the same life expectancy we have today. And it is unfair to compare time periods where people had as many children as possible without thought as to how to feed or care for them with having two or three well cared for children. This is demonstrated in third world countries, where people typically have big families and life expectancy rates are much lower.

Throughout history, people were taught to respect their elders. But according to the low life expectancy crowd, there must not have been any elders to speak of. Although modern medicine did wonders for eliminating child mortality through vaccinations, it does virtually nothing for adults. Instead it is documented that each year 6.1 million Americans are harmed by physician error, and 98,000 people died in hospitals each year from preventable medical errors.⁽⁷⁾ Rather, Almighty GOD is ultimately responsible for sustaining life; humanity is responsible for shortening it. I'm sure my great-great-grandfather, who lived to 108 in the mid 1800s, would certainly agree. *The Long History of Old Age* gives a fine treatment of this subject.⁸

Treating Addictions: Drugs and Anonymous Groups

Anonymous support groups exist for addictions from AA-AZ, all modeled after the original Alcoholics Anonymous. These groups can help create a great sense of camaraderie and accountability. However, anonymous groups usually haven't worked.

Group members often view their system as perfect and better than any other. Members are often barred from incorporating other ideas into these programs. Moreover, long-time members may pressure new members to give up their friends, even though they've never met and know absolutely nothing about those friends. But if group members stop invading other's personal lives, only stick with the problem at hand, and become open to helpful suggestions, these problems would be resolved.

Most groups have removed the distinctly Christian theology, replacing a definitive God with a “higher power”, whatever that is to you. So your higher power could be the ceiling, or believing in somebody bigger than yourself could be believing in Fat Albert. Everyone's personal beliefs are encouraged, but vocalizing them is discouraged. If someone conquers their addiction, finding happiness and fulfillment with their higher power's help, other members are expected to acknowledge them a complete success, and believe that s/he has achieved the zenith of spirituality. Those who are true to their doctrinal convictions cannot accept this vague spirituality as equal. However, devout Protestants or Catholics might find Anonymous groups that have that distinct theology in place. For non-religious people, there are “Rational Recovery” groups, which have a different philosophy from Anonymous groups, yet have the same goals.

Anonymous groups exchange phone numbers so members can encourage one another during a crisis or moment of overwhelming temptation. However, if nobody wants to befriend you, you can't benefit from the "buddy system." Someone suffering temptation calling others for support who answer the phone in annoyed tones and make excuses for not intervening is counterproductive. However, this dismal success rate could skyrocket if everyone who suffered temptation could call another member, who immediately intervened regularly.

Concerning alcoholism, people aren't motivated to stop drinking by seeing psychologists or going to counseling sessions. They certainly aren't motivated by being self-righteously lectured, chided, condemned, or shunned. Most people are heavy drinkers because they have a hole in themselves which they fill with alcohol. They must fill that hole with something else, such as spending time with non-drinking friends.

Thank God for medication, made possible by technology. Addiction to hard drugs like heroin, morphine, or cocaine almost always requires drug therapy, coupled with a medically supervised detoxification program. For alcoholism, medicine such as disulfiram causes alcohol intolerance, therefore preventing enjoyable consumption. However, this medication can be very dangerous and is not for every alcoholic.⁽⁹⁾ Other medicines such as acamprosate, naltrexone, and topiramate control alcohol cravings. Sometimes alcohol causes a chemical change, where severe alcoholics now need quantities of alcohol. For them, it's advisable to provide alcohol in progressively lessening degrees in conjunction with the medicine. So even administering alcohol is a drug therapy. Some people who were heavy drinkers for years quit drinking entirely just by taking medication and being inspired by sermons by the late Billy Sunday.¹⁰

Sexual addiction is a problem unique to men. Prepubescent boys and elderly men are also rarely affected. Many men struggle with sex, and men without sexual partners usually much more so. That's because libido is primarily controlled by testosterone levels and releases. Since doctors usually won't prescribe hormone blockers, those seeking drug therapy would probably have to order medication over the Internet, having to pay out of pocket and not having quality control. However, this route is appropriate if this addiction causes serious financial loss, legal trouble, or poses a serious hazard. For example, actor David Carradine died of autoerotic asphyxiation. In severe cases, only radical action produces adequate results. Medication prescribed by professionals for combating melancholia or compulsion can decrease excessive libido somewhat, and satisfies some users thereby. However, since these medicines don't alter hormone levels, stronger options are sometimes necessary.

Conjugated estrogens (often used to treat prostate cancer), usually cause a much greater libido reduction, but not always. Testosterone sometimes dominates, and estrogens in such men can be converted into testosterone. Besides, superfluous estrogen may cause the unwanted side effect of slight bodily feminization. Anti-androgens (drugs which specifically block testosterone) are highly effective. However, they're expensive and hard to get. Though altering hormone levels causes side effects, the benefits far outweigh the side effects for serious addicts. Though obtaining hormone blockers may be difficult and their use is discouraged, incarcerated sexual predators often obtain such medication easily. So men should commit crimes in order to fix their problem? Actually, the solution should be every man having his own wife and getting full sexual satisfaction thereby. However, this is far from happening at this point. Notably, some cannot afford medication; others do not have the discipline to stay on medication, while some may have a poor or bad reaction to medicine. So use whatever works for you.

Smoking

While prescription medicines, caffeine, and aspirin contribute to thousands of deaths yearly, tobacco contributes to over a million. Cigarettes have highly addictive nicotine, and tobacco smoking harms every organ in the body. Smoking isn't natural since you cannot pull a plant from the ground and immediately smoke it. Tobacco plants must endure unnatural man-made processes before use. Just because cigarette smoking dropped after 1980, don't thank modern society; modern technology created mass cigarette consumption. Very few people smoked before 1900.^{11,12}

For those who cannot quit smoking, here's a miracle substitute: electronic smoking or vapoing. There are ten great improvements. Most importantly, far less harmful vapor replaces extremely harmful tobacco smoke. People testify that after switching from cigarette smoking to e-smoking, their health dramatically improves, they fully enjoy e-smoking, and they stop coughing and wheezing. You control how much vapor you inhale by twisting the device to make anywhere from a tiny amount of smoke to a large amount. Also, these electronic devices come in different sizes, from that of a cigarette to tubes that are fifty percent longer than cigars and twice as thick.

Flammable liquid replaces tobacco leaves and paper. Therefore there are no ashes, butts, or tobacco residue. This liquid comes in various gradations of nicotine levels; you can slowly decrease the amount of nicotine in your vapoing, or smoke those without nicotine whatsoever. These liquids are available in even more flavors than what hookah tobacco has to offer, while you never fill your device with water or light charcoal tablets.

While smokers feel obligated to finish their cigar or cigarette, with their smoldering embers and tobacco that crumbles inside pockets, e-smoking solves this problem. Liquid tobacco ignites with a button, completely extinguishes upon releasing the button, and is preserved inside a steel tube. This also eliminates its fire hazard. And you'll never need another match or cigarette lighter ever again. Finally, it's cheaper than cigarettes, cigars, pipes, and hookahs. You'd be a fool not to substitute this product for what you currently smoke. Smokers: find this product on the Internet today!

Stimulants

Various "male enhancement" pills are marketed to aging men who want to keep their youthful sexual energy. They work by increasing blood to the penis, causing a sustained erection. However, the only way to artificially increase penile blood flow is dramatically increasing your blood pressure; the entire circulatory system is completely interconnected. A middle aged or elderly man purposely increasing his blood pressure should be the last thing on Earth he would want to do. Yet these pills are legal; talk about the foolishness of machismo and the greed of American capitalism. For aging men, testosterone injections, which are also risky, could help. Better yet, one can accept the aging process gracefully.

Controlling Hereditary Factors with Science

Although one's spiritual welfare trumps all temporary earthly concerns, Jesus compared the Gospel message to randomly throwing seeds; most seeds are wasted. And although one in four results in Christ's parable are fruitful, suggesting a 25% success rate, the result is often <1% success and 99+% failure.

Therefore I advocate eugenics: the science of controlling hereditary factors through selective breeding; and genetic engineering: the science of controlling hereditary factors through DNA and cell manipulation, to cause biological and social improvements.⁽¹³⁾ This is the only technology that can radically change the world. It could increase the percentage of "good soil" in Christ's parable, who would embrace His message and inspire others. If not, you're still following the Golden Rule by improving the world for others.

Though it's politically incorrect to declare people unequal, human differences are obvious from childhood. For example, one child makes an elaborate sandcastle, while another child stomps on it. We certainly should encourage genetic predisposition for being constructive, while discouraging genetic predisposition for being destructive. Although some complain about people wanting to play God, all parents already share God's role as a co-creator. As for these disciplines possibly being used for evil, don't pretend our world is a Utopia. Millions are already suffering terrible evil, while this could produce the greatest good of any technology, since the genius in our genes is the very thing from which all other useful technology springs forth.

We know that the desirability or undesirability of plants are fully dependent on genetics, and that of animals very much so. They are God's creation, with whom we share environments and a physical nature. We're already applying these genetic disciplines to them; so why resist selective breeding and genetic engin-

eering for humans; perhaps the sins of pride and stubbornness? Perhaps some want us genetically backward so we remain subjugated? Consider that the number of children with parents in prison has doubled in the last ten years.(14) Although it's easy to continue repeating broken patterns of thinking and behavior, life only improves if we don't remain stuck.

So if there's no interest in treating all of humanity by the "Golden Rule," at least cooperate for the sake of your succeeding generations. Again, technology betters our world overall. However, we often give God the middle finger by assaulting His creation and acting like what we create is far superior. Technology has frequently become an instrument of mild torture; our technology has surpassed our humanity. Can we work towards reversing this? Absolutely.

