LIFE IS NOW BETTER THAN IT WAS 100 YEARS AGO

  **Abstract**

Life happens to change every day and every time. Today, when you revisit a place you were three years ago, you will probably see the changes in that place. This is the case with today’s life. It is not the same as it was in the 20th century. From the stories some of us have heard from our great grandparents and even our own parents, they used to study differently, they had various mode of communication which are totally different from what we have in the 21st century, there dressing codes and life expectancy was also totally different from what we are experiencing today. This essays delves in life was in the 20th century and how it is today. Some of the key areas that the essay scrutinizes are; Education, Gender Equality, Communication and modes of Transport, Health and finally the way of living.

  **Education**

 Education, in simple terms can be defined as the way people gain knowledge. It can either be formal or informal. Formal education occurs in social institutions, kindergarten all the way to University level, on the other hand informal education is the knowledge one gains from their parents or the community at large. The education is social institution would be carried out in a class room, in the 20th century, students would sit on the floor to be taught as there were neither desks nor chairs as these institutions. Most of the communities in Africa would be taught in their native language hence there was no integration in this century. Students had no uniform then as it is today. In the 2oth century, teachers would use authoritarian leadership to teach the students. With such leadership, the students’ confidence and self-esteem will go down for the environment was not conducive for interaction with their teachers. Failure to follow the rules, the 20th century used corporal punishment to bring children back in line.

Comparing education in the 20th century to 21st century, mankind has evolved, he has changed and he is still progressing. Today’s education is of good quality with a lot of integration. Technology set in, durable buildings were constructed, and children do not have to sit under a tree to learn. They sit in well-constructed buildings with good chairs and desks to sit on. Today children are taught in national languages which enable them to interact with people even those from other nationalities. Technology has widen the education field. People can take courses online at the comfort of their homes and still get their degrees and the skills needed. Internet has made learning easier in that students, not only students but anyone who has interest to learn can access reading materials. Unlike 100 years ago where books and libraries were limited. In today’s learning parents and teachers do not use corporal punishment, they have given room to mental health which scientist have discussed in different dimensions on how to have healthy mental health. Learning environments have become more conducive since it is more of interaction classes rather than authoritarian ones.

Science and Technology has impacted today’s education into becoming qualitative and more accessible to all, illiteracy is slowly being wiped off in the coming generations.

 **Gender Equality**. Equal rights, opportunities and access to resources, equal sharing of responsibilities for family by men and women and harmonious partnership between them are critical to their well- being and that of their families as well as to consolidation of democracy, United Nation (1995a). Gender Equality campaign begun after the world war two. Before then, women ought to be submissive to their husbands and take care of the family. At this period only men were allowed to go to school, women would be married off at the age of sixteen and wealth would be given to their parents. Women were considered as a source of wealth to the family. Technology brought about exposure and men and women became more aware of their rights. In the 21st century life has become much better, women are gaining the same exposure as men, getting opportunities in education, careers and even work places.

 ***Communication and Modes of transport***. Putting into comparison life in the 20th century and life in the 21st century in terms of communication and mode of transport, there is a big comparison between the two. Communication today has become more way easier. People can communicate with their loved ones from any part of the world in a single click. 100 years ago people relied on letters, biting of drums, screams and smoke signal for communication. Getting a message would take days or months depending how fast a messenger was, and some depended on how the weather was. By the use of technology scientist used the very same thing people in the 20th century used for communication. Scientist made use of light and waves to determine how sound travels. With these discoveries they were able to come up with cellphones and laptops and computers. Scientist have worked around these sound waves and come up with television and radios. Getting information today is way easier and less costly. Citizens are aware what happens in their countries by just switching on their televisions. According to World Health Organization, communication takes various steps which are as follows, • accessible • actionable • credible and trusted • relevant • timely • understandable. WHO strives at all times to ensure these principles are at the core of its communication activities and are reflected in the full range of materials and activities: social media messages; web-based fact sheets, feature stories, commentaries, infographics, Q&As; intranet content for WHO staff; press conferences, news releases and media advisories; videos; visibility and outreach activities etc.

Mode of transport has made life quit enjoyable and connectable. From walking kilometers, using donkeys, and horse-drawn chariots to use of air for transport, electrical and fast train not forgetting well-constructed roads and sea transport. All this has been made possible by science and technology. It all started with the invention of a wheel and discoveries carried on from there.

In summary, Good Transport and communication means are some of the things that have made life in this current century better compare to how it was 100 years ago.

 *Health* is another aspect that has made life better in this current era. Although life expectancy has gone low and the level of diseases has gone high, people have become aware of their health cases and reduced ignorance. By use of technology scientist have researched and manufactured medicines, by the use of technology, apparatus such us microscope, scanners and stethoscope just to mention but a few have come in handy in the health sector. HIV/AIDS used to be a deadly disease then as it is today. This is because scientist have come up with Preps and Peps together with RAVS to deal with the spread of the virus and also to enable those with the virus live long healthy lives.

In conclusion, Science and Technology have impacted the way of living in the 21st century than it was 100 years ago.

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