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The Impact of Information Technology on the formation of the Kuwaiti Youth: A Sociological Analysis

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Abstract

Modern societies tend to invest in the development of the human mind in the field of information, as communication and information transmission technologies have become the corner stone in the construction of the edifice of human values. During the last decade of the twentieth century, human societies witnessed successive developments occurring at an accelerated rate in communication and information technologies thus facilitating and promoting contacts between individuals and civilizations. The worldwide web or the Internet perhaps represents the most important of these developments. Therefore, the contemporary society reflects a new social system in which knowledge and technology play decisive and influential roles. The modern knowledge revolution, following the revolution in information technology, led to the emergence of the knowledge society, a society based on a set of values, laws, orientations and behaviors formerly unfamiliar to human societies. Undoubtedly, the impact of the revolution on information technology will by far exceed that of the industrial revolution, which was mainly apparent in western societies. For who can today live away from the myriad of news, pictures and analyses transmitted through television by communication satellites? Who would agree today to stay out of contact with friends and family members wherever they may be? Who still does not know that the most underground movements advertise their activities and programs through the means of information technology? The digital revolution has in fact influenced economy, politics, infrastructure, social awareness and society, even in the most reserved countries. Moreover, the revolution in information technology has not yet ended. After the rapid proliferation of the new digital media, the World is eager to see the subsequent developments and future innovations in these technologies and how they will merge with mass-communication technologies to generate new packages of entertainment, communication, mass-communication and information services. Such recurrent technological revolutions will impose numerous changes, not only in the economy, but also at the level of social and political awareness, and reaction and interaction with the whole World.

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