

Penélope Acevedo Diaz

Prof. Jesus Lopez

INGL 3104-002

The purpose of the following essay is to analyze how our current situation reflects in the novel “Brave New World” by Aldous Huxley. The novel talks about a new society and the “dehumanizing effects of technology” that exists in said society. As well as the main character’s need to experience the fullness of human emotions after certain events. Also, he speaks about a world where you sometimes seek satisfaction rather than the truth and the way people try to “fit in”. In addition, you will find my opinion about the consequences these factors can have during our present and future

As for the dehumanizing effects of technology it’s no surprise that technology is advancing each day. The story begins “describing the futuristic society of World State and how marriage, family and procreation has been eliminated, babies are genetically engineered and grown in bottles.” They create this society due to problems in the past era such as: poverty, disease, unhappiness, and wars. Which in turn prohibits them from feeling love and happiness, this contradicts the fact that the society was meant to improve the human experience. This makes me wonder that because of the virus we lose most of these experiences anyways. Maybe, our future society won’t be as extreme as presented in the novel but surely enough I believe changes like this will come. Surely enough if we don’t achieve creating babies grown in bottles, A.I robots are on the path of replacing humans.

We live in a society where sometimes we forget our own merits and try to live by other people’s standards. That’s another way I view our future society because nowadays due to social

media we find ourselves trying to be something that we're not. Much like the World State programs humans with psychological conditioning and drugs them with "soma" I believe our "soma" is the internet. Social media controls our thoughts, emotions and reactions and we have no proof of whether what is being projected to us is real or fake unless we see with our own eyes. Brave New World "signals to the reader how the World State brainwashes its citizens to become obedient." and the internet can be a form of doing that in our very own society.

In our current situation with the COVID-19 some of us are blind to the truth and seeking our pleasure as John did in the end. By this statement I mean we ignore the severity of contracting the virus by not practicing social distancing and other safety measures. Still, we seek our fulfillment with no regards to what may happen to us and others. In my opinion, this is a "brave new world" one, where we are forced to give up our daily lives in exchange for our health. For those who stay at home, you can say there are living a "pain-free but meaningless life" and that "pain is necessary for life to have meaning" as Huxley said. However, I'm not suggesting we shouldn't care about the virus, but I think we can all agree we yearn for the life we used to have.

I see this novel as an opportunity to reflect and be more conscious of our actions and what we desire. The importance of knowing the difference of what we want or need with the COVID-19 is crucial. Social media in this process and when everything comes back to normal has many benefits, but we rely on it more than we should to the point where it becomes toxic. Technology is a great asset, yet it can reach a point of replacing human beings. The devices employed to replace us are meant to "enhance" the human experience much like Brave New World, what if it comes to the point where its robots going to our children's graduation instead of us?

References

Sparknotes. (2010, March 16th). *Brave New World*. Retrieved from sparknotes:
<https://www.sparknotes.com/lit/bravenew/>