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The benefits of Technology in Teaching and Learning

I personaly believe that technology is revolutionizing both teaching and learning. With e-learning there are now new ways to teach and new ways to learn that were unthinkable just a generation ago. And this revolution is progressing with an extra boost due to the Covid-19 pandemic, when physical contact must be reduced to the minimum, and social distancing having become a new buzz word. What we see is an unprecedented number of people sharing knowledge about a multitude of subjects to an unprecedented number of learners. But how is it percieved by the majority? Let's find out.

To answer the question in the title I did some research on the internet, and I found very interesting results. (See APPENDIX.) About half of the studies that I checked showed that learners prefer traditional, face-to-face methods of teaching, and about half of them prefer e-learning. It would be a very interesting research topic to find out on a greater sample of studies what factors might affect this outcome.

In my personal view, e-learning will never completely substitute traditional face-to-face learning, just like the TV did not kill the radio, or the car did not kill the bicycle. There will be a coexistence of these two methods, where every learner can choose their preferred way of teaching.

APPENDIX

Prefer traditional methods:

Singapore:

https://nus.edu.sg/cdtl/engagement/publications/ajsotl-home/archive-of-past-issues/past-issue/perception-of-singapore-students-towards-webcast-lectures-and-online-video-material-results-of-a-local-survey-at-a-higher-education-institution

Sweden:

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/228559036_Students'_Perceptions_of_E-learning_in_University_Education

Pakistan:

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7306963/

USA:

https://repository.stcloudstate.edu/im_etds/8/

Prefer e-learning:

Jordan:

https://www.online-journals.org/index.php/i-jet/article/view/3347

Indonesia:

https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1742-6596/1088/1/012058/pdf

Iran:

https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED502679.pdf

India:

http://oaji.net/articles/2019/1496-1566039021.pdf