

## **Is Google Negatively Affecting our Intelligence?**

Everyone loves Google, it's such a fast and easy way to get a lot of information with the click of a button, but Google is making people less intelligent. The most used searching engine tool, Google, was invented by computer scientists Larry Page and Sergey Brin back in 1998. Since then, many people rely on Google to gather important information in the blink of an eye. Several articles answer the question on whether or not Google is making people dumb. Sources A, B, and C all give their perspective on how Google is impacting people's minds in a positive or negative way. Google is in fact making people dumb by shortening people's ability to memorize important information, it's blocking people from being able to think deeply, and it's misleading people with false or inaccurate information.

To begin with, Google is negatively affecting our intelligence because people seem to not be able to memorize important information like they used to. According to Genevieve Robert's article, he claims that, "90 percent of us are suffering from digital amnesia. More than 70 percent of people don't know their children's numbers by heart, and 49 percent have not memorized their partner's number." This is very true since when any of us have to call someone, we simply use their contact and not type in the person's number. It may seem like this is not a big deal, however if one can simply not memorize 10 numbers, how will they be able to memorize important information! According to an Infographic by online colleges, it shows, "When the information is saved externally, we usually don't memorize it, but rather remember the place where we can find it." Whenever you're on a computer and you have to email a friend or a teacher about an important question or event, how many times have you actually typed out their full email address and not just typed their name to have it pop up on your screen? I know I have never done that.

Most people like finding shortcuts to things they do on a daily basis, such as look up a question on Google or ask Siri. How many times have you actually remembered the answer to your question? It's becoming more and more difficult for people to remember simple things such as a phone number.

Secondly, Google is negatively affecting our intelligence because it's affecting people's ability to think deeply about something. According to Source A, it says, "It's our ability to think deeply about that information. And deep thinking, brain scientist have discovered, happens only when our minds are calm and attentive. The greater our concentration the greater our thoughts." It seems fairly easy for anyone to search up every possible question or doubt in their mind, but what if you couldn't use the internet? People constantly rely on the internet for almost everything, cooking recipes, nearest restaurant, or even a question like "What kind of dog should I buy?" However, when it comes time to have to think of other ways to find answers, our brains become blank. For example, my English teacher once assigned us a report on the importance of reading in life but she said we couldn't use the internet! At that point all of my classmates including myself went nuts! The internet is such a fast way to get a lot of information but back then the internet wasn't a thing yet there was still great scientist and wonderful discoveries. According to Source B it states, "If we're not forming rich connections in our own minds, we're not creating knowledge. Science tells us memory consolidation involves attentiveness: it's in this process that you form these connections." It's very important for people to learn how to use the resources that they have around them to be able to get something out of it. We find ways to do things without having any clue as to how to do it! That's what makes people creative and intelligent. It's the way one solve the problem rather than what the answer turns out to be that

counts. People are always told to find a way to solve a problem no matter how difficult and impossible it may seem, and the internet blocking people from doing that now.

Last but not least, Google negatively affects our intelligence because its information isn't always accurate and correct. Adults are always telling children to not always believe everything they read off the internet. According to Source A, it says, "The faster we zip across the web clicking links and skimming words and pictures, the more ads Google is able to show is and the more money it makes. So even as Google is giving us all that useful information, it's also encouraging us to think superficially. It's making us shallow." Many times we always click the very first website link that pops up, but not always do we check to see if that source is credible or not. A majority of people are always believing everything that they see off the internet and that starts causing people's brains to become dull and narrow since they don't think the information is wrong. According to Source C, it says, "The internet is filled with in incorrect information which may lead to being misinformed." It is very easy for anyone to simply make a website nowadays. Any person can easily put wrong information on a web page and someone out there would believe it. In fact, I even have my own website. Although some people may argue that the internet is a great source for information, people also have to be aware of all of the wrong information there is out on the internet.

To conclude, Google is negatively affecting the intelligence of people. It's making memory in the brain shorter, it's affecting the way people think when they have to think deeply and the internet is full of incorrect information which misleads people giving them the wrong ideas of things. It's important to see how evolved people are with the internet today and how sometimes the internet is not such a good thing.