

Technology is the Antithesis of freedom

Potash

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Every step forwards for technology is a step backwards for freedom, look throughout any stage of the progression of technology and you will find regression of freedom.

What created the state? **Technology**

Agriculture allowed society to become more complex, and therefore it required greater organization. The natural, and universal result of this greater organization was the creation of the state. The state only came into existence after the creation of agriculture, and the existence of agriculture lead to the creation of states all across the world. It is abundantly clear that the creation of the state was an inevitable result of Agriculture.

What gives the state the power to enforce it's rule? **Technology**

The state has been around for a long time, but not all states are created equal. Many ancaps and libertarians have pointed out that people had far more freedom under Feudal Monarchies then we do now. This is true, but it isn't because Monarchs all happened to be benevolent freedom loving hippies, no the state has always had the same incentivization to expand it's power at the expense of human freedom it has now. The reason feudal states were more free then modern states is because they lacked efficient mechanisms for enforcement of the law. Enforcing rules is much much harder without an advanced communication, surveillance, or weapons system. Technology gave the state all the tools it needed to enforce it's rule.

This is also much of the reason why punishments for crimes were so much more serious back then, the state lacked efficient enforcement mechanisms, so it had to rely on fear to enforce it's rule. As an individual, if things got really bad you could at least run away and know that you would be free then. Now? There is nowhere left to run. Wanna live on a national park or Government land? Sorry, the feds will hunt you down and make you pay your taxes + imprison you for breaking retarded regulations.

What created, and gave infinite power to the Bureaucracy? **Technology**

Technological Advancements inevitably make society more complex. More complex societies require greater organization, greater management, and greater regulation. The inevitable result of this, is Bureaucracy. We now live in a world dominated by Bureaucracy. We are no longer dependent on ourselves, and to a certain extent our tribe for our basic necessities of life, but instead upon a handful of ultra-powerful bureaucracies. The Bureaucrats aren't you, or me, and they definitely don't have the interests of freedom in mind. They are concerned only with their own interests, and regularly chose to restrict freedom if it is in their own interests. You and I have essentially no influence over the decisions that they make. We can cope about it and pretend we do by voting, or boycotting, but the reality of the matter is that no action we can personally take will have any significant impact over the decisions of these bureaucracies and will will inevitably be subject to them regardless of what we have to say about it. Technological Society has to crush the individual, and force him to live under the boot of the Bureaucracy in order to function efficiently.

What gave governments and corporations access to all of our private information? **Technology**

More recent Technological Advancements have been used to restrict freedom in numerous ways, and if I wanted I could go on and on and on listing all of them. But this post will already be long enough, so instead I think I'll focus on the most egregious of these, which I find to be the fact that the US government has access to all of our private information. They have access to our location, any conversations or messages we may have with anyone else, anything we've ever searched for or looked at, basically our entire life. This is the cherry on the top of this shit-sunday. All of the stuff I've mentioned before is bad enough, and it's already basically gotten rid of real freedom we may have. But apparently that wasn't far enough, we had to eliminate the concept of privacy.

If your a pro-tech anarchist whose managed to get this far into this wall of text, then I'm assuming your thoughts on it are probably something like this:

“Sure, technology can be used to restrict freedom if it's used by the wrong people. But that doesn't make it inherently bad. Just as much as the wrong people can use technology for bad, the right people can use it for good. Technology isn't the reason the state has power, the reason the state has power is because most people support the idea of the state and are complicit in it's rule.”

This sounds pretty reasonable on it's face, but when you think about it a little it falls apart. The average person doesn't pay their taxes and obey laws because they love the government, and want it to have more power over them. Nobody wants to pay taxes, or go through Security at the airport. They do it because they have to. Chances are, your the same way. You don't want to obey stupid laws, or give money to the government that's bombing innocents or imprisoning people for smoking weed. But you don't really have any choice in the matter, if you don't do these things and you get caught the consequences will be greater then if you do them, so you are essentially forced into doing them.

So no, the mindset of the average person is not the reason why the state exists. The reason the state exists is because technology has created an environment where it is inevitable, and has given it efficient mechanisms for enforcement. If you have any doubts left, look towards the attempts that have been made to eliminate the state within technological society (Revolutionary Catalonia, the “free” territory of Ukraine, etc), they managed to both completely fail to eliminate the state, and collapse entirely within a few years.

It's time to stop shoving our heads in the sand, and acting like technology is not the enemy of freedom. Enough delusion, Enough cope, Enough sugar-coded lies about how it's not really technology's fault that it caused all of the major setbacks for freedom throughout history.

No more

It's time to embrace the truth, no matter how much you hate it. Technology has been the antithesis of freedom throughout all of history, and it always will be. So it's time to make a choice:

Technology or Freedom

Which will it be?

Appendix: A Response by Mbe

As far as I understand your argument, you posit the following doctrines:

- A wrongful understanding of what technology really is.
- A wrongful dichotomy between technology and freedom.

To understand the problem technology poses, we need to reject old assumptions, namely that technology is merely an end in itself. However, technology is not just an end but also consists of the means to achieve this end, based on rational calculations and what is materially available at a given time to achieve the best outcome. In this view, human beings have always been technical, but, as Heidegger writes, “enframing” has become a “challenging forth.” This means it no longer results in poiesis—it no longer brings forth the qualities of humanity but instead challenges them. To understand this struggle, we need to study the very means by which the machine is applied, which Ellul attempted to do.

Technique’s purest law is that of maximum yield.

Consider the city: it is the purest expression of technique as a milieu—a closed system where natural reality is excluded and replaced by technical imperatives. Outside the city, only two options remain: the urbanization of rural areas (submitting them to technical logic) or their desertification (where “nature” is reduced to a resource for exploitation). In both cases, the means reshape results, reorganizing human behavior and physiology to serve the system’s demands.

In this view, technique can be seen as a meta-system because it constitutes a closed system, as Bertalanffy’s systems theory explains:

- No element has meaning outside the system.
- If you change one element, you change the entire system.
- The system excludes external realities.

Thus, the means, in this case, are the totalizing problem because they subordinate humanity to questions of yield and production value. As a result, non-technical values like justice and autonomy become obsolete. Not understanding this dilemma creates a contradiction that collapses our understanding of technology into inevitability.

Consider a hammer: If there is no rational instrument of reasoning, then that end becomes useless. The development of the hammer and its use follows the development

of technique. In this case, machines or technology are rather natural. If, for example, a decentralized technique were to dominate, it would strive the milieu toward a more ethical way.

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