Hello! My name is Andrew Boyer, a junior studying Communication Media at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Today I want to talk about this! Oh yes the cellphone, or better known now as the smartphone. These powerful devices have taken our lives and I would love to talk about this more!

What exactly is a smartphone? More importantly is why you need to learn more about them. For one, no such technology like the TV or personal computer has revolutionized the industry like the smartphone. It has changed the way we communicate, but at the same time created entire different markets. Whatever your prior opinion on smartphones may be; it’s crucial to know how they are changing society for better or worse. So, let’s start with some history!

This is the iPhone and when it debuted in 2007 it changed the way we use mobile devices. This and the android devices that came after revolutionized how we use our phones. Even since we now do so much more than make phone calls or text message. Blackberry’s of the past may have brought internet and email to the mobile devices, but it was the iPhone which started the “app” revolution.

If you look at this graphic provided by Business Insider, you will see the logos of the best 100 applications at this time. And while we may have different opinions on what are the best apps, it’s seeing the variety that makes this interesting. There are apps that do basic Internet task, like browsing or email. But there are also revolutionary ones that have changed social media, created a new transportation industry, and even added a fourth screen for media view. Astonishing isn’t it? Apps are a huge part in the smartphone history.

Smartphones have outpaced TV with the fasted adoption rate, reaching 40 percent adoption in 2 and half years according to MIT’s Technology Review. With a rate like this it’s not surprising that these devices are changing our lives daily.

So what is one way that smartphones are changing our lives? Access of information is a big one! With Internet connected phones, it is now much easier to find information. So much in fact that we are now remembering less, and rather knowing that anything can be looked up. However, there are certain disadvantages that come with this. We remember less and become lazier. This laziness to remember makes us less intelligent as a whole, which is a shame.

Another change that smartphones are bringing to our society is social interaction. If you ask my eighty-year-old grandmother how she met my grandfather, she’ll tell you it was at a public dance hall social. Today if you ask the same question to my best friend, he’ll tell you how he met her on an online app called tinder. Social interactions have definitely changed because of smartphones.

Human interaction seems to be very easy going when on a smartphone, especially through social media. However, you’ll notice that we are now less interactive in person. So while we may be coming closer to others through smartphones, regular small talk skills could be declining.

Finally, another way that smartphones have changed us is the all the additional features they bring. Some of these have rendered prior technologies useless.

Smartphones pack so much punch it’s almost unbelievable. These tiny devices have great cameras, accurate gps, and enough processing power to make a decade old computer look laughable. This power has also allowed for the creation of apps that have changed industries.

For example the taxi industry was shook with the mainstream use of apps like Uber and Lyft had begun. These apps started small but quickly grew and were well liked by the younger generation, you know the one who uses smartphone the most.

While smartphones are great and I very much like using mine, I think we should also remember a time without them. We need to spend less time on them. It’s true that many cannot go a few hour/minutes without looking at their phone. Others feed off of social interaction and feel like less of a person if they don’t get the amount of likes deemed necessary. So, what can be done?

We need to be taught at a young age that real interaction is foremost important. Also, that expecting a perceived amount of necessary likes is dangerous. Sometimes putting the phone down and exploring this great world can be more fun. But, if you are going to use your phone, do great things with it. They have great cameras, so why not make a film, create a story!

The iPhone and also android software changed how we use mobile devices. These new phones are indeed very smart and capable. They create new ways for interaction and also new opportunities. However, as good as these devices are we do need to take some precautions. Also, while smartphones are great, we do need to remember how to live without them.

My name is Andrew Boyer, a junior studying Communication media. I hope this film helped you understand how smartphones are changing society. If you have any question, feel free to contact me on my blog at <http://iblog.iup.edu/djjt/>. Thank you for watching and until next time, goodbye!