

Hannah Bontinen

## Technology, The Greatest Tool

The piece of technology that is by your side is millions of times more powerful than all of NASAs combined computing in 1969, the year the first man set foot on the moon. Technology is an amazing tool that can put your ideas into action to create a positive change. The Apple computer was created to give access to amazing technology for everyone. Cory doctorow portrayed in his novel *Little Brother* what technology can be capable of in the hands of young adults. Silicon Valley is full of young adults who are focused on solving the biggest problems in society. This generation unlike our parents has the greatest tool, accessible technology, but we decide how we use it.

Today everyone has a cellphone, but 40 years ago only big companies had technology like computers. Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak, two friends in university, created a computer that revolutionized the technology age, “their invention of the first true personal computer changed people ideas of what a computer could look like and what it could do to make their lives easier and work more efficient” Lemelson-MIT Program. “Today Apple continues to be the one of the most popular brands of personal computing devices in the world” Lemelson-MIT Program, this is because Steve Jobs was a visionary and continued to update the Apple computer till it became the iPhone that is apart of millions of people’s daily lives. Without personal computers they way we communicate and share our ideas would be drastically different and not as powerful.

As teens we are told that we create the future we want to see in the world, but when we try to create that change by going against the norm, most adults become very sceptical. In Correy Doctorow novel, *Little Brother*, Marcus Yallow a high school student proves that statement to be true. After the bomb of the Bay bridge in San Fransico, the government takes away people's privacy and is taking ordinary people in for questioning. Marcus Yallow, being determined to do something about it, ends up creating a communication system that the department of homeland security cant see, called the Xnet. He created system with only his knowledge of coding and a free Xbox that was givin to gamers. Soon after the Xnet was created, it evolves to a huge movement against the DHS, "the movement is composed of 'Little Brothers' who watch back against the Department of Homeland Security's anti-terrorism measures, documenting the failures and excesses." Correy Doctorow theme of the new generation creating change is shown this statement, "don't trust anyone over 25", that is used because many adults are completely against the idea of Xnet. *Little Brother* inspires youth to make a difference in their community and take risks by portraying on the main character, Marcus Yallow, how powerful our ideas can be when we put them to action.

Silicon Valley is the place to be if you have a vision on how you want to create positive change. Silicon Valley is full of young adults who have determination and the right mindset, "You don't need to be a fifty year old buissness man you can be a 20 year old dreamer" Welcome to Silicon Valley documentary. Everyday young entrepreneurs are creating new useful technology that all have the same outcome,

“solving the biggest problems in our society today” Welcome to Silicon Valley documentary. Many entrepreneurs have multiple startups fail before they really succeed. That’s why the community in Silicon Valley is so important because many of the young adults in Silicon Valley say, “parents are the single biggest obstacle” Welcome to Silicon Valley documentary. They don’t understand that being an entrepreneur is a real job and just like working in a buissness it takes time to be successful. Entrepreneurs want to be apart of the future so by being in Silicon Valley they are surrounded by the right reasources and supportive youth.

Technology will continue making a disruption in our life because we are able to communicate and share with a click of a button. Steve jobs and Steve Wozniak have made it possible for everyone to have this power. Correy Doctorow inspires youth to use that power in little brother to produce something positive. Entrepreneurs will continue to let their crazy ideas become reality by taking risks in Silicon Valley. With everything that has been changed over the years in technology by young adults I wonder what will be the next big disruption to become.