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Using Technology in the Fight for Liberty

Technology: Throughout human history, it has been both a blessing and a curse.

It has been a boon to mankind, making life easier and allowing for an unprecedented increase in both human population and standard of living.

It has also been disruptive, causing changes to human societies as old systems are made obsolete and economies change.

Technology has given those in power new and enhanced means of gaining, maintaining, and even expanding that power, while giving the common folks new and innovative ways of undermining the elites.

Technology, in and of itself, is morally neutral. It is simply the work of man's hands and springs from his imagination. It is the use of technology that can be either good or evil.

Whatever the case, it is obvious that technology is advancing at what could be described as an exponential rate. Whereas in centuries past, new technologies were introduced relatively slowly and almost accidentally, technological developments are now taking place so rapidly that society often has difficulty adapting to the new reality.

Take recent advancements in artificial intelligence (AI), for example. The popular introduction of AI chatbots such as ChatGPT and Bard, along with AI image generators such as Midjourney and Stable Diffusion, is causing quite a stir in many circles, not least because of their ability to obviate many white-collar professionals in the creative sphere who once thought that their industries were safe — up to this point, technology had mostly replaced low-skilled labor, after all.

While it's true that AI may begin to replace many white-collar jobs — such as entry-level programmers and artists — the genie is out of the bottle and it's not going back in. As AI proliferates, tools such as chatbots and image generators will become ubiquitous, likely a part of the technology suite used by just about every business out there. Rather than fighting it, people would be wise to learn to work with AI, using it as a time-saving tool as much as possible.

Regardless of one's view of technological advancements, the fact is that technology is an inescapable aspect of modern life, and a tool that is incredibly powerful — one that can be used for good or ill.

Those who would use technology, and particularly AI, for their own nefarious ends might seem to have the upper hand. Then too there is the fear that AI could get out of control, and exert control over and even supplant humans, even if the intent of those who created the technology is not nefarious. But throwing up our hands in despair is not the right thing to do. Then how can we resist? It's not realistic to try to destroy enough existing technology to bring civilization back to a pre-electricity state of advancement. On the contrary, we who love liberty must learn to harness technology for good, then with it we can help neutralize the grip on power that the elites currently hold. Using technology with a focus on privacy and setting up "parallel structures" outside of the mainstream economic and financial paradigm are just two examples.

In this Special Report of *The New American*, we take a look at the current landscape of technology, and where it's going. We discuss AI tools, censorship, cryptocurrencies, the internet, and privacy.

Technology is here to stay. We ask our readers not to be reactionaries and fear technology, but rather



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to learn how to harness it for our own good and for the sake of our posterity. Let's use it to further the cause of freedom and independence everywhere.

— *John T. Larabell*



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