

Technology Neutrality

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Abstract

The neutrality of technology and technological determinism is influential academic debate. On the one hand, the development of human technology, and technology in the process of promoting human civilization increasingly showed great strength, making people hope it; however, when people enjoy the technology at the same time, also pose a potential hazard. Some people think people enslaved by technology. Technology is provided tendentiousness. In this paper, the primary objective of this article is to reveal the source of technology by analyzing key point of technology neutrality and clarify the fundamental point of technology neutrality. And last, we attempt to reveal technology neutrality in the current human society's essential accomplished issues.

Key words: Technology; Neutrality; Value

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1. THE CONNOTATION OF TECHNOLOGY NEUTRALITY

1.1 Technology

The word “technology” originated from the ancient Greek, means “skills”. In ancient Greece, “technology” refers to the subjective factors, and “science” refers to the rational

knowledge which reflects the objective things. Modern natural science theory in the application of the technology leads to the production of the modern technology. In the technological factors, subjective factors such as skills, experience, no longer leading the dominate position. And the word “technology” also turned into “learning”, “theory”. This is the modern technology. On October 21, 1879, Edison electric lighting experiment was carried out successfully, and the British Encyclopedia defined day as the birthday of modern technology.

About the definition of the technology, the definition separated narrow from broad. The narrow definition considered that technology which meets the needs of the individual and society created is on the basis of creative thinking. They have the function of making the specific goals and tools that ultimately transform the role of methods. Broad definition is extended to any particular method of effective activities.

In the modern society, human beings usually means that under the guidance of scientific knowledge in a certain experience, purposefully change effective methods of objects. Technology is represented by showing the person's skills and ability, technical means (tools, equipment or other artificial objects, etc.), technical system (operational procedures and technical standards, etc.), technical knowledge of the four forms. Real people by using the tech change all the object's methods (including three categories like modification of natural technology, technology, the thought of reforming society or operation symbols of technology).

1.2 Technology of Neutral

When it comes to technology neutral which involved such a problem – namely whether the positive and negative effects of technology? Whether the technology shows people would harm themselves? We have seen in the ancient society, said technology showed mostly is a kind of subjective factors; However, in modern times, personal skills, experience, such subjective factors as

it no longer has a dominant position. That is to say, the modern technology more and more divorced from man's subjective factors existence. In the generalized definition of technology, technology is an effective way and method. So technology must emphasize the efficiency of its own. Temporarily put aside the body of the technical service object and function of complex social relations, and focus on the effectiveness of the technical operation itself. This is what the general technology neutral said, is a "neutral". In face, the neutrality from the deep essence refers to the intrinsic value in technology neutrality immediately.

1.3 Value Neutrality

Value is a philosophical category, which mainly expressed a general relationship between subject and object in human life, namely the existence of the object, and changes the relationship between the main body need. About the philosophy of neutral value in the said problem, can be traced back to the distinction between "fact judgment and value judgment" "Hume problem". British philosopher Hume by the division of "is" and "should", logically distinguished fact judgment and value judgment. He thinks we can not infer the proposition of "is" from the proposition of "should", that is, from pure fact descriptive notes we cannot deduce standard what should be about moral standards or regulations. A said about "is" is a kind of involved in the state of the world to the true or false, while a "should" expressed that evaluation about the state of the world.

In the Chinese context, "value neutrality" is seen unvalued, value free, morally neutral, etc.. Principle of "value neutrality" who firstly put forward and systematic confirmed is the famous German sociologist Max Weber and become the core idea of Weber thought methodology. In 1914, the German sociologist Max Weber in his significance paper "Ethical Neutrality" put forward the concept of "value neutrality", and regarded it as the principle of science, discussing more centered and systematically discusses his ideas about the value neutrality .

Weber's "value neutrality" closely associated with the German philosophy background (new Kantianism), theoretical background (Germany "political economics tendency), organizational relations (Germany's "social policy association" with the German "sociological association") and in the turn of the 20th century German scientific status and closely related aspects such as political consciousness. "Value neutrality" has been developed and systematized through "value debate" from German historical school of economics. Appears to be "value neutrality" thought itself contains strong debate color which indicates the serious differences of the thought in the future. Of course, also because Weber constructs idea of "value neutrality" when facing the extremely complex academic background lead to its theory has experienced through the superficial

and one-sided understanding has the most serious misunderstanding of the process.

Weber's "value neutrality" is not a rejective value, not only is to "make the value more rich", and through "value neutrality" and "value related" two principles make science (even) and the value of their respective location to get a reasonable position. Weber has talked about the "value neutrality" which "don't have value" or "out of value", which not involved in the value of the object of study, But said that we should take the research object of value judgment as scientific research. So it is developed from simple "value neutrality" to the "value discussion" what Weber said. It is through the "discussion" that only allowed the researchers to seek truth from facts, standing in the position of the object being. Or from the historical and cultural context, to "understand" is subjective motive, value orientation of the research object, the principle of "value neutrality". It is not deviated from principle, but rather observe it. "Value neutrality" also includes two meanings which means is the requirement of the "two aspects: one is the study to avoid the researchers of various subjective influence; the other one is required in the study the researchers only do" reality "(the fact), and not as a" ought to "requirements (value judgment).

1.4 The Value of Technology Neutrality

Ultimately, the value of technology neutral theory think that technology does not involve the use of good and evil. The development of technology has two kinds of logic: natural logic and social logic. Natural logic is the logic of things, the society is the logic of man, the logic of man's all-round development. Most neutral theorists think that logic is the logic of things, as long as you don't against the logic of content of the research and application of the technology be, and that's exactly what was brought harm to human beings.

Another point of view, also thinks technology is grasping the value neutrality. , for example, on the one hand, Habermas critic dependents of Weber's methodology of content value neutrality, on the other hand he also put forward its own belongs to the people of technology making a point of view. First, he from three point of view of critical the Weber's value neutrality point: firstly, social phenomenon does not have natural science of objective meaning; Secondly, scientific research is necessarily involved in the value; Thirdly, consensus truth theory weber corresponding theoretical criticism. Habermas thinks that scientific knowledge and technology knowledge are the product of human consciousness and the natural relations. We can't be with pure like weber's perspective on science and technology. According to Habermas's point of view, for the objective natural world, a relationship of the objective world (i.e., the relationship between human and nature) is the value neutrality, because it does not include the value judgment, including cognitive judgment. Habermas is extremely easy to reflect

the technology is understood as a kind of demand for a specific behavior. Therefore, he considered the technology is beyond the special political interests, and performance for the neutral.

2. WHETHER TECHNOLOGIC NEUTRALITY CAN ACHIEVE

On technical discussion, the technology of neutrality and technological determinism has always been an influential academic debate. Due to quickly technical development, with the range of technology application more and more widely, and the function of the technology more and more high, people of technology, and also holds a human technology. At the same time, the technology of the positive and negative effects are more and more huge, then technology's intrinsic value neutrality theory can persuade people to use a neutral attitude to look at technology.

2.1 Great Masters' Attitude

First, in terms of industrial civilization, people often say: Science and technology are a "double-edged sword". Have the blade on both sides of sword, when we cut at his enemy with one side of the blade, lane is bad to get hurt by the other side of the sword blade. Double-edged sword is a kind of metaphor, refers to the object of the metaphor has both positive role in positive, negative effect. Double-edged sword is about Wiener the industrial revolution. Wiener writes: "The new industrial revolution is a two-edged weapon, it can be utilized to the benefit of mankind, but only when the time is long enough for human survival, we benefit for human beings, is likely to enter this period. The new industrial revolution also can destroy life, if we don't use it rationally, it could quickly develop the point." As a result, the negative effects and even wiener technology up to the height of the human "destruction".

Accurately, Wiener referred to the new technology is a double-edged sword. Many scholars in our country are talking about "science and technology is a double-edged sword", in fact which means technology. Ought to say "technology is a double-edged sword", more realistic to say that "technology is a double-edged sword".

A view that we should try to improve the positive effects of technology application, and reduce its negative effects. The key is to strengthen our sense of responsibility. On the application of the technology with the correct moral treatment technology application. During the technology research and application, not only to consider the problem of "how to", but also "should" should be considered. Those who think technology task to improve the functions of content, and does not involve the problem of people, otherwise it is beyond the scope of research technology. This is a one-sided view. Technology research of the reality is, but not a fan, there were no

economic relations, the interests of natural things, but in order to meet the needs of the people's creations. Made by technical means of creation, impact on what people have, this is technology research. Technologists are responsible for this problem, which is the first duty of a technologist.

Lenin once said: "If geometric axioms violate the interests of people, that also will be being contradicted. If people under the name of study science, pseudoscience and superstition, should also be banned. That is to say, science without penalty area, but the technology is restricted. Specifically, natural science theory research area, technology research and application of the box. If the natural scientific theory to study the fundamental interests of the damage to the human, is also should be banned.

2.2 The Intrinsic Value of the Technology of Neutral and Neutral Reality Are Impossible

2.2.1 Great Masters' Views

Einstein once it comes to technology and dehumanizing. He said: "I think today people's ethical decay to the point of such a frightening. Mainly because our first life of mechanization and dehumanization, which is a catastrophic in the development of science and technology thought by-product." He thinks mechanization will lead to the human, this is the devastating negative effect of science and technology.

"Technology in social activities, the more people the less autonomy and initiative", "in the face of technology autonomy, there is not a person's autonomy", "technical autonomy of no today people choose his fate", "technology selection is not made by the people, but a made by the technology itself", said by Mr Lv Er. According to this statement, they should not be responsible for the negative effect of technology application. Extreme consistency, facing the technology application of the negative effect, through technical autonomy, techno-enabled and mutual transformation between the techno-enabled will be only.

The essence of Marx deep to see the people lost in technical activities. Marx believed that in the alienation labor, man-machine relationship happened serious dislocation. Marx's alienation of machine to make people made a deep analysis. He wrote: "in the workshop handicraft industry and handicraft industry, workers use the tool. But in factories, workers serve machine. In the former situation, the movement of labor materials from workers. In the latter situation, the workers follow the movements of the labor resources. In the workshop handicraft industry, workers are members of a living body. In the factory, dead institution independent of workers, workers are treated as live appendages into death." "People here has no consciousness, action just boring machine system have a life of attachments, conscious appendages." Who was the owner of the tool, has become a tool of servants; when workers are people, have become objects appendages; But clearly workers consciously, the machine will deprive the consciousness of the workers.

2.2.2 None Possible in Reality

As we know, human technical activities pursue interests, namely economic interests. The fate of technology and its product, depends on how much bring the advantages of it. So the technology is the core issue of interest.

Human economic activity has two most basic principles, benefit principle, or utilitarian principle - people participate in economic activities is the direct aim of seeking personal material interests. Efficiency principle, or benefit principle—people in economic activities, to pursue the maximization of interests, which makes every effort to use less as far as possible, get as much in return. This is the combination of the two principles: Everyone in economic activities to maximize their material interests.

The two principles are reasonable. Don't carry out the two principles, we will not have the economic development, and civilization will not has progressed. The two principles is the guarantee of human survival and development.

Technology is becoming more and more powerful productivity, and technology can develop quickly. The most fundamental reason, is in the economic activities of human material life by creating information, technology is to implement the two principles of the most powerful tools. Technology has brought the utility and efficiency. Technical force is very magical, and the source from this. And the operation and development of the technology itself, are carried out according to the two principles.

However, the two principles has huge limitations. Will spontaneously in implementing the principle of interest, you want to do regardless of personal interests and the interests of others, the collective interests, public interests and national interests and human interests. We can easily produce only economic interests regardless of the trend of ecological benefit, social benefit and spiritual benefit. In carrying out the efficiency principle, will be spontaneously for personal gain maximization trend and thought can bring high efficiency and fair of the strong, the rich should dominate social point of view. In a word, two principles can spontaneously produce selfish and greedy. The combination of the two will be spontaneously, continuously produce moral and social evils. So, material civilization is the fruits of economic development, but social evil has its economic root.

As an important economic activity in the technical activities, of course, also has the duality, which both created a brilliant material civilization, has created the good, and also has a tendency to spontaneously evil. Application stage of technology will inevitably lead to the alienation of people. Basic forms of duality, in addition, the technology is technology application of the two sides. The two sides of the main root are conflicts of interest and social responsibility.

At the same time, technology pursue the interests. It is only the interests of the people to obtain material for technical means that provide people with choice and influenced by tech, but is not likely to select carriers of

moral status and influence technology. As long as the appropriate technical operational requirements and moral people can achieve the goal of technology application, unscrupulous people can achieve their own purposes. Some people who use technology for their own profit are good, and some people who use technology for their own profit are evil. Technology can only decide the relationship between the function and technical operation cannot determine technology users at the time of application technology of the relationship of the people.

We see that the technique of vertical root can only be the technology of the intrinsic value of the original neutral, however, the application of technology is not neutral. But the intrinsic value of the technology of the original neutral, there's no difference like baby's sex discussions before pregnancy, which has no practical significance because of the use of technology. It is not like science can be, pure concept of the concept. Technology inevitably externalized, materialized, and realistic. If you want to know the sex of the baby, if you want to see what the technology really is, you have to be real to see pregnant women, and you have to really use technology. Have been saying those who advocate "Neutrality" advocate that technology's intrinsic value is neutrality, and technology without bias. However, when we pull open a certain historical stages of reality technology content, it is characterized with the era of puffed up or technology of humility.

To survey technology from the perspective of pure natural property of neutrality, you will fail to see no real live people in the world of nature. "If the nature which separated from people, for man is nothing". The view of the technology neutralist is completely metaphysical, abstract, withered, logic and improved in theory, is in the study and the walls of churning out. It revealed the literati of acid and the "strict", like philosophy professor is didn't see the reality of the concrete reality of the impact of technology on people with intimate glimpse.

The idea that technology has both neutral side, at the same time, under a certain system and has value to one side of the point of view is ridiculous. Technology is "neutral", that is in the mind is like ideally like two pieces of white paper, is of good and evil of the here and now people tend to zero state, which means infinite possibility; Marx tells us, however, the essence of man is the sum of all social relations, person necessarily belongs to the society, the idea of people must be what he is determined by the society. That kind of fantasy is absolutely neutral, absolutely perfect point of view, and can only be old mechanical metaphysical academic thoughts. The point of view is lost historical materialism.

It is obvious that technology itself is the value of the load. Human beings on the basis of practice made rationality materialized, and eventually became into the objective material form of technology. Every step of the noting has the value of human reason. The development of

the human reason is always runs through it, the purpose of the human reason to in the process of transformation in the form of technology must be guided by the purpose; Every step forward, rational cognition is closer to the purpose of the actual, as well as the technology in the form of objective human want finally laid a solid foundation. Visible, the development of the technology is rational, and rationality is a sign of human value and desire, because of the technology in all the runs through human reason and it technology, as a result of the physical form of once formed, in fact marked the value of the technology to obtain the final expression. And once the external system throughout the course of the human and organizational factors involved in the technology, then value bias of the technology itself is already confirmed.

Technology, as a human mediation and means of objective activity, which determines the technology that will be materialized externalization and realistic, technology will also have it "ethnicity". People is through the technology content to perceptual activity, then the person is in possession of technology, is being held by technology inevitably. Thus, materialized, in technology of moment is completed. So, the technology of neutrality, which can only exist in neutralist cerebellum bag, and there is no real belongs to the people in the society.

From the technology itself to understand the meaning and value, namely first of technologies will understand the nature of the technology. Based on the technology of the natural attribute, thus the understanding of technology value is always not to regulate from the ontology of technical level, thus the meaning of human to illustrate the existence state of technology, it should be and must be in our understanding of the basic starting point the technology itself value. We admit that, from this point of view the value of technology, that is just the meaning of ontology ("yuan technology" or nature). The value of the technology itself is "aneutral". Technology neutrality is just here, techniques of "yuan technology" — that is, the state of nature, the technology's own internal there exists technology neutrality. And technology of the state of nature it is not possible, is necessarily a certain social reality technology, the technology will also load the value of reality, this is technology into the reality of the society can't get rid of. Before you could say that technology "conception", gender is likely to be made may be being female, but at the moment of its conception is inevitable can only be a gender.

Meanwhile, make a point there, in the technology of human liberation is something alien and technology. Humans, however, must liberate itself this way.

2.3 The Method of Way Out

2.3.1 To Make the Necessary Constraints for Technical Applications

Due to technical application in social aspects of reality has no neutrality (in realistic society inevitably leads to the

alienation of people), then the real path requires technical social reality level, the technology application level — that is, the application layer to face technical constraints. Because of social transformation necessarily reflected in technology of externalization, materialized, and realistic.

A certain period of time, technology lead to the alienation of people is inevitable, and the reality of the technical application of negative effect responsibility not in technology but in people, how is that man, that man has the responsibility and able to apply technology to reduce the negative effect to the point of power, at least ease the pain of technology alienation of human.

According to the views of Mr Lv Er, technology application is demonstrably has a negative effect, but he believes that technology to eliminate the negative applications also only through technology. And with the development of technology, technology will naturally eliminate the negative effect. Yes, technology to eliminate and reduce the negative effect of technology, play an important role, of course. But the technology does not come from growing. Research and application of various techniques, finally still are a person of decision making. As Mr Lv Er this thought with the advance of technology, technology will naturally eliminate negative effect, is groundless, also is harmful.

Fromm's thought, the modern technology system has two guiding principles: First principles, "whoever technology should do what you can do"; The second principle, "the principle of maximum efficiency and output". Two principles, that is to say that technology can do should do, but also try to strengthen the effect of it. Even the evil technology shall be in, and the consequences of efforts to strengthen it. This, of course, is absurd logic. According to Hume's point of view, he has said the fact judgment of "reality" and said the value judgment of "ought to be separated. "Can" is not equal to "should", if any technology can do, we should all do, then we gave up on technology was applied to evaluate the consequences and responsibility. If a kitchen knife "can kill people," we "should" with a kitchen knife to the crime?

The relationship between human and technology can be to create and be created, the development and the development, application and has been applied, control and be controlled, the relationship between management and the management. People is the main body, technology is the object. According to Kant, "people is the goal," technology as a means. Technology should be profitable, and shall not damage the interests of the people. Is who dominate the fate of the technology, rather than the technology dominates the fate of the people. The highest goal of human beings, not the development and application technology, but the all-round development of human, technology for the target service only. The development of the technology, the more should emphasize on technology of humanistic concern. We should try to improve the positive effects of technology

application, reduce its negative effects, the key is to strengthen our sense of responsibility for technical applications. Technology research and application, it is to put into action, all the consequences of technology research and application in relation to the interests of the people. Technical application of the negative effect, will impose upon oppose such application. So the study of technology and application, must be the necessary constraints. There is, technology research and application have moral standards, can not damage the interests of human beings.

For technology can have public criticism of reality and constraint, the supervision of the academic community, government intervention, a variety of means such as law. Of course this kind of constraint should be serious and responsible, should be reasonable, and have the basis.

Necessary constraints on the application of the technology, are in essence of human selfishness and greed constraints; Coordinator's relationship with technology, and in fact is to coordinate the interpersonal relationship in the technical activities. This once again shows that we need not only advanced technology, also need the right technology view and outlook on life.

Technology is like a fire, it has a tendency to spontaneous spreading. Fire stove is a kind of constraint. The abuse of technology is a fire.

2.3.2 Create a "New Comprehensive"

There are many scholars advocate must carry on the culture of the new comprehensive, even to create a new culture.

The natural science historian Sutton proposed to create "new humanism" or "science humanism". Sutton believes that the new humanism with natural science as the core, it is the source of intelligence and healthy, but not the only source. No matter how important it is, it is not sufficient. At the same time the history of natural science is a branch of history, but it is an object with natural science, it itself is a kind of "amphibian" culture, but it is not the only bridge between two cultures. Two kinds of cultural integration, also don't have to be what kind of culture as the core.

The American philosopher Richard Rorty proposed a "post-philosophical culture," the idea that different cultures should equal dialogue, there isn't a culture is another culture must imitate the model. Rorty points out that the traditional view of natural science mission is to "show", the task of the humanities is the "explanation", but also needs to explain science, so the natural sciences and the humanities are essentially uniform. He believed that "science is a kind of literature, science, or technology, shall be submitted to the humanities culture domestication.

About the fusion of the two cultures, Chinese scholars, professor zei-shung huang wrote: "We put the concept of "fusion" extended to the unity of science and humanities,

it is not to equate the two, is also not make a" swallow "or" assimilation "of the other party.... to seek the path of the unification, the first thing to notice the special attributes of both, this is the premise of two kinds of knowledge so that can exist independently, the second is to note that both the common attributes and their connection, which is the basis of the unified. Two kinds of culture mutual infiltration, promote each other, but each has one kind of the independence of the real road is harmonious.

This view of the "new synthesis", because the technology is more and more sharp double-edged sword, so we should advocate humanism. People-oriented, with the skill to use. The relationship between human and technology is always create and be created, the application and has been applied, the relationship between control and be controlled. People is the main body, technology is a tool. Who is the owner of the technology, not technology animals, also is not a slave to technology. Is human decide the fate of the technology, rather than the technology to dominate the fate of the human. Technology should be for human benefit, and shall not damage the interests of human beings. The interests of the people created by technical means, are only part of the human interests; The best interest of human is human's full scale development, the value of technology is its service by the highest goal of men. We need a way to the height of the technology as a means (tools) and attitude, wary of deep to people are the dangers of technology alienation, from the Angle of reality, in aspects of humanistic care technology thoroughly domesticated.

CONCLUSION

Technology neutral only lies in the abstraction of its own intrinsic value, the subordinate people the reality of social development and technology of materialized context, technology will inevitably have a slavery people, possession of the realistic society stage, must stand in the opposite of people. Road on the solution of the reality is that how we can at this stage with the attitude to look at a tool in the technology, the doctrine of choose and employ persons to domestication technology, let technology to serve the people, not people enslaved by technology. Technology in the reality of slavery and holds a man, but we ought to be going to have the technology.

We should actively advocate humanism in the activities of science and technology. And the combination of science and technology culture and humanistic culture, is the science and humanism. The task of humanistic culture, in the final analysis is in order to better play an active role, advocating people-oriented.

The two cultures of mankind, like the one about the two hemispheres. Separation of the two cultures, is the division of human nature. Reality is the way of the

combination of the two cultures, which can realize the all-round development of human and the reality of human liberation.

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