Should Cell Phones be banned?

With the development and success of technology, cell phones have become a vital part of student’s everyday lives, but not for the better. The number of students who use their phones in class and in negative ways increases each year and it is becoming a huge concern. Cell phones should be banned as they negatively affect student’s learning by harming their education and job opportunities. Also, seeing as devices are used for entertainment they shouldn’t be needed as they result in several issues during class, and although a great way to communicate, phones lead to cyberbullying and online harassment which can negatively impact student’s mental health.

To begin with, student’s education and possible career opportunities are at risk when their phones begin to distract them. When a student becomes occupied with their phone in class, they neglect the work that has to be done and it often becomes homework. When they get home, that pile of work gets put aside by chores, school activities, sports, and even more technology. Eventually the work pile will get larger and larger and students will begin to panic because due dates are approaching, their assignments aren’t done and they don’t have time to do it. They end up rushing through all the work and it gets done poorly. While the student may do the work at home, other assignments that weren’t done in class will need to be completed but will get pushed aside because of other homework that has to be done as well. Their marks will start to going down and it will be harder to get them back up to get into their desired college or University which may affect future career opportunities. Without the distraction of cell phones, students will have the ability to hand their work in on time and completed properly as well as have a better understanding of the assignment that needs to be done.

Next, cell phones cause many problems that can be easily solved if they were not permitted. Students consistently bring their phones to class for the sole purpose of entertainment. For example, they bring them to listen to music while they work. However, they end up spending half of their work period choosing what songs to listen to and they end up falling behind on school work. With phones banned, teachers would have control of when students have access to technology. There are several electronic devices provided at school that students could substitute their phones for such as iPads and laptops. These school resources provide everything and possibly more than phones and can only be used with teacher’s permission. As a result, this cuts down the amount of time students can spend on electronics as well as reduce the chance of students getting off task. When teachers are in control, they will find keeping their class on track will become much easier and less problems will be created.

Lastly, communicating with friends and family through social media is a great way to pass time and keep in touch however, bullying and online harassment has become an immense problem. Today, cyberbullying is not only affecting students but has also started to affect teachers as well. Recent studies have shown that over the course of five years, teachers are thirty percent more likely to be cyberbullied and harassed online than back in 2013. Although social media sites do everything in their power to stop cyberbullying, it is never enough to stop it. In this case, if cell phones were banned it could minimize the chances students have to go on their phone and bully people. Students are at school approximately six and a half hours a day. Combined with bus rides, homework, chores, extra-curricular activities, and more, it drastically reduces the time students get to spend on their phone possibly harassing others.

Although people benefit from cell phones, students do not. They may argue phones shouldn’t be banned however they put student’s future careers at risk, they create problems in class, and they give students the opportunity to harass others online. There are several other options that provide a greater advantage to learning than cell phones. While they may provide helpful solutions they only provide students with continuous problems that could end with harmful consequences.