**Journal Activity for part 4**

When consciousness is split, so is perception. When perception is skewed, so is identity. Before television, children would learn about their communities by playing in, growing up in, and contributing to them.

Many social critics and historians note that the automobile in the 1950s homogenized the planning of neighborhoods and the architecture of houses, with main thoroughfares featuring billboards, national chain stores, gas stations, and fast-food restaurants, and with garages altering living space in residential housing. Can the same be said of media and technology with respect to living space? Test that in your own or a relative’s house by:

Using home computers and mobile phones we may believe that we are tending to key relationships. What we are really doing, more often than not, requires no more of a commitment than reading a newspaper or leaving a sticky note on the refrigerator.

1. **Document your activities in the journal.**

During the course of a week analyze the impact of technology in your electronic exchanges at home or at school/work. Note the following for **two** instances. Be sure to catalogue interruptions at school/work or disruptions at home.

Jot down the medium used to make contact, along with the time of and reason for the contact. Answer the following questions.

Was the contact untimely rather than opportune?

1. Was timely for the medium, given the reason for contact.
2. Was untimely for the medium, given the reason for contact.
3. Could have been conveyed at a more propitious (favorable) moment.
4. Probably should have been conveyed face-to-face at a different time or date.
5. Probably would not have been conveyed face-to-face at the particular time of day that the message was sent.

Was content capricious rather than cogent?

1. Was language clear, somewhat clear or unclear?
2. Was content important, somewhat important or unimportant?

What components of face-to-face dialogue were filtered by the particular medium?

1. Examine how sight, sound, touch and so on would have enhanced content. Determine how the medium may have modified meaning.

*Credits to Michael Bugeja – author of Inter-Personal Divide: The search for community in a technological age.*