FROM THE DIRECTOR

Runaway technology that drives people to living superficial lives of constant distraction is losing its appeal for many. At least that is the implication of a cursory look at the results of a survey of US adults taken by the Pew Research Center in May and June of this year.* In the last year, of Facebook users ages 18 and older:

- 54% have adjusted their privacy settings
- 42% have taken a break from checking the platform for periods of several weeks or more
- 26% have deleted the Facebook app from their cell phones altogether, and
- 74% have taken at least one of the three actions just listed above.

There is even more significance in the age differences of those who have taken these actions:

- Adjusted privacy settings: Age 65+: 33%; Ages 18-29: 64%
- Break from checking: Ages 65+: 40%; Ages 18-29: 47%
- Deleted the app from phone: Ages 65+: 12%; Ages 18-29: 44%

So what is happening here? Are the younger users rising up to stand against the tyranny of the urgent in social media? Or are they simply switching to other apps that the older folks have not taken over yet, as was suggested by someone in a conversation I had recently? It is obvious that more information is needed to answer these questions definitively.

This is a great example of knowing the facts, and yet not knowing all the facts. This is why doing good, thorough research is so important. A little knowledge may be just enough to catapult you in the wrong direction, making assumptions that are unwarranted, such as a common error of this type: believing that evolution has been unequivocally proven by “science.” There is more to the picture. Look for it. “...Add knowledge to integrity...” 2 Pe 1:5.


- Dr. Gary Fitsimmons

DATABASE SPOTLIGHT

Access a full text digital archive of The Nashville Tennessean newspaper, 1812-2002, in Proquest’s Historical Newspapers database! We have 190 years of news articles, photos, advertisements, classified ads, obituaries, cartoons, and more from The Nashville Tennessean available to browse.

HAPPENING IN THE LIBRARY

THIS MONTH

Fall Break, October 15 - 19 -- The library will be open Monday through Thursday from 8 am - 5 pm. The library will be closed Friday and Saturday and will reopen on Sunday evening, October 21.

National Candy Corn Day, October 30 -- Visit the library for a candy corn treat!

LIBRARY SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

Midterm Studying Accessories
- Studying for midterms? Each study room in the library is equipped with a whiteboard for you to use. Dry erase markers are available to check out at the library front desk.
- Forget your earbuds in the dorm? We’ve got you covered! The front desk has headphones you can check out.
- Need to block out all the noise? There will be a box of earplugs at the front desk through midterms.

NEW IN THE LIBRARY

3 new study rooms on the first floor!
- Rm. 100A Presentation Study Room
- Rm. 100B Media Study Room
- Rm. 100C Conference Study Room

Reserve a room using this form: library.bryan.edu/room-reserve