A Theological Approach to the Social Problems Associated with the Use of Information and Communications Technologies (ICT)

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Abstract
Today’s world is characterized by the appropriation of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in all areas of life. There is much talk of the benefits, but little of the risks of a thoughtless, uncritical and unlimited appropriation of technological advances. Cyberbullying, sexting, nomophobia, cyberdependencies, among others; they are some of the most well-known social problems that affect current generations. Therefore, it is urgent to deepen our knowledge of the problems associated with the use of ICTs and to build from a biblical hermeneutics a theology of technology - cyberteology - that contributes to the formulation of a timely pastoral in this context. The theological approach proposed in this article, takes the advance of other disciplines, but interprets the problems as the manifestation of a technological idolatry - cyberidolatry. To achieve this, biblical principles applied to the technological world are presented, the exegetical model elaborated by José Luis Sicre is adapted on the denunciation of the pre-exilic prophets to the secular idolatry and the manifestation of them is observed in the context of some ecclesial communities. It concludes the presence of the problem in the young population and the feasibility of its study from a biblical, theological and pastoral reference framework.

Keywords: Communication; Technology; Cybertheology; Practical theology; Social problems

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Introduction
The development of science, technology and innovation (STI) is an ongoing priority and its goal is technological appropriation in all areas of life. To STI are conferred important capacities for showing, prevent and intervene social problems1. In recent years, only in Colombia, investment for STI development exceeded 18 billion of Colombian pesos and is projected to increase to 26 billion in 20182, all under the promise of “providing solutions to the great problems faced by Colombian society”3. It is believed that with technological appropriation there will be a new human being, for whom “imperfection, intellectual, corporeal and ethical limits” will not be present. Information and communication technologies (ICT) do not escape this mission. Affordability, ubiquity, versatility and diversity are not only admired but desired qualities of ICT and, as with the STI, and are considered as essential inputs for social transformation4.
However, there is another side of the coin. The dependencies5 to

3 Ibid.
5 Cumbre Mundial Sobre La Sociedad De La Información, “Informe final de la fase de ginebra de la cumbre mundial de la sociedad de la información”, Documento WSIS- 03/GENEVA/9(Rev.1)-5, Ginebra, 12 de mayo de 2004, 67.
6 Given the lack of consensus in studies, the term dependence is used instead of addiction. However, is still recognized the negative impact on the environment of the individual in academic, social, economic and labor
the internet (cyber dependence) and cell phones (nomophobia and phubbing), harassment or bullying through social networks and internet (cyberharassment, cyberbullying), production, dissemination and exchange of sexual content (sexting, online pornography), online sexual extortion (sexortion), deception and harassment through false profiles in social networks (grooming), extortion, theft and identity theft (cyberextortion, phishing, smishing), among others, are some of the new social problems for the appropriation of ICT without limits or reflection. Several of them are unknown by most people although there are a growing number of cases. The study of them is scarce with a remarkable empirical approach and few conclusive works [1].

Despite that there is no abundant academic development in this setting, the severity of the cases has motivated the execution of programs aimed at prevention and intervention, in which, description, and empowerment and social denunciation are the main actions. The legislation is scarce for these issues [2]. In Colombia, for example, only some behaviours are criminalised by justice [10].

The question resulting from this scenario is: If the ICTs are thought and developed to generate well-being and progress, why they cause destruction for the human being today? Tillich would answer that it is due to the ambiguity of the technique. It simultaneously presents its positive and negative aspects, in a confused way and with the trouble to establish with certainty which of these two forces is dominating. But even if there is such ambiguity, the balance is more inclined to promote the virtues and possibilities of the technique than its risks. This has placed the technique and its discourse - technology in the words of Ellul - in a preponderant aspect. J.A. Cruzado RODRÍGUEZ, “Adicción a internet: de la hipotética entidad diagnóstica a la realidad clínica,” Psicopatología Clínica, Legal y Forense 1 (2001), ss. 93–102.

In Colombia, for example, only some behaviours are criminalised by justice [10]. The Law 1273/2009 typified some actions related to the handling of personal data as crimes, with the purpose of safeguarding and preventing the use of personal data in contexts mainly business, economic and political. However, phenomena such as grooming, sexting and cyberbullying, which have a great impact on the young population, do not have a legal framework for judging those responsible.

In addition, the theological approach is necessary before the proposal of humanist prevention and intervention proposed to ICT problems. Appealing to the modification of behaviour by means of an individual will as an exit from the technological pit, dug precisely by the absence of limits and responsible conceptions of the technological appropriation, is to attribute salvific abilities to the same suffering individual by the consequences of his wrong actions. To consider human limitation as a reality of the being in opposition to the limitless human capacity stated by humanism opens the possibility to live the redemption executed and revealed by God. To deny it, reaffirming independence, autonomy and human potential without contingency, is to leave alone and adrift those who are destroyed by their inadequate decisions and actions. Christian theological reflection brings hope in itself since it announces the salvific mission of God in the person of Jesus in all areas of life, including the technological one. In doing so, theology becomes a humanizing agent because it contributes to the strengthening of the being in relation, giving new insights and experiences of its finitude and its contingency.

In order to fulfill the purpose of this theological approach, it is necessary to construct a Christian worldview where there are transverse Biblical principles, to apply a hermeneutic model and

entre el pesimismo sociológico y la esperanza bíblica”, en Boletín CFS, n.º 37 (2002): 7
14 Íbid.
to observe the problems within the ecclesial communities. In this way, theological reflection, if it has to be presented within a framework of the Christian understanding of society, involves the Biblical, the referential and the contextual in order to state pertinent and transcendental actions. In this way, the see-judge-act of the Inter-Loci pastoral theological model\textsuperscript{16} is transcended by the Biblical foundation: we see, judge and act from a Christian Biblical worldview. Theology is “the commitment made as God’s people to understand the revelation of God in context for our context”\textsuperscript{17}. The Scriptures provide essential concepts and references for understanding the contexts in which human beings live, explaining the implications of human action and revealing the scope of divine intervention. When applying them to the reality of ICT, is possible the development of a Biblical cybertheology\textsuperscript{18}, a theological reflection on Scripture in response to human transformations in and by ICT.

**Biblical Principles across the ICT**

*Everything is created by God.* The Scriptures reveal the creative act as exclusive, sovereign, generous and self-sufficient on the part of God. His work comes from nothing (Gen. 1) and is an expression of His abundant love\textsuperscript{19}. “He is not behelden to create, creates by himself, moved by love flowing to and from the interior of the Trinity”\textsuperscript{20}. He performs as a divine initiative of revealing himself. All his work is an accurate reflection of His “God’s invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature” (Rom. 1:20). Therefore, the whole creation is essentially “very good”\textsuperscript{21}, admirable, wonderful (Ps. 139:13-14) because it comes from a gorgeously perfect, unsullied, almighty God (Ps. 19:1; 33:6; 102:25; Isa. 40:28; Jer. 32:17, 10:12; Rom. 11:36; Heb. 1:10; 3:4; Eph 2:10).

But even creation itself with its greatness and complexity is not autonomous or self-sufficient. It is sustained and maintained by His word, wisdom and power (Job 38:40; Am. 4:13; Mat. 10:29-30; Rom. 11:36; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:3; 2 Pet. 3:7). He gives and sustains life. The Biblical conviction of the divine sustainability of the creation supports the hope not only of its control before the calamity but also its salvific intervention in it. God is savior because he is the creator (Job 38:40; Psalm. 121:1-2, 124:8). Thus, “by emphasizing the power of God over creation, the man recognizes its finiteness”\textsuperscript{[5]} and emphasizes the need for intervention before hardship and crisis. To consider the technique as the result of human effort to solve their problems\textsuperscript{22} is a source of hope and saving definition that is unfounded. A speech\textsuperscript{23} away from the natural reality and sustained by the sophistry of human independence. By contrast, a theology of creation allows an objective understanding of the human condition and challenges to understand the relationship between the Creator and the created\textsuperscript{[4]} To consider the divine creation of everything, regardless of methods, times and forms, is to reaffirm objectively the very humanity of the human being.

Man and woman, as created beings, share a differential condition compared to the rest of creation. They are described as “the image and likeness of God” (Gen. 1:27), an affirmation that does not reject or modify its materiality, but enhances its ability to interact with the Creator by making them partakers of its divine attributes\textsuperscript{24}. Human beings, from a Biblical perspective, “cannot be thought but in relation to God”\textsuperscript{25}. This distinction is accompanied by the giving of the creation for its administration (Gen. 1:29, 2:15), thus giving man and woman responsibilities over the created. “The consequences of this delegation of power are man’s dominion over all the works of God’s hands”\textsuperscript{26}. The human being in relation to the Creator is responsible for the cultivation -development- and care of the created, which was delivered to him.

Technological advances and ICT are essentially “very good” because they come “from the Father, from whom all things come” (1 Cor. 8:6). God gave all the resources created by him necessary for technological development so that they would be “cultivated and cared for” by the human being. He gave life to those who research and develop technologies. He sustained them, providing them with health, physical and mental capacities for their realizations, which were not created out of nothing or stand autonomous or independently. “All other reality is God’s creation and therefore depends on its existence and support”\textsuperscript{27}. The human being has the power for the transformation and innovation, but not to create or have the ability to sustain itself its embodiments. Its power is limited. “Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?” Jesus would say in this regard (Mat. 6:27). It is in this reality that the Pauline assertion “Everything has been created through him” -meaning God- (Col. 1:16) not only confirms a divine quality directly but also indirectly alludess to the same finitude and dependence of human beings before the Creator, whose consistent result is a submissive and obedient attitude toward the magnificence and divine superiority.


\textsuperscript{18} A. SPADARO, Ciberteología. Pensar el cristianismo en tiempos de la red., (Barcelona 2014)

\textsuperscript{19} D. DEL SALTO, Teología de la creación. Fundamentos e implicaciones para la iglesia, (Medellín, 2011), 2.

\textsuperscript{20} DEL SALTO, Teología..., 2.

\textsuperscript{21} The antithetical essay of Génesis (T. DONNER, El texto que interpreta al lector: una exposición de la Biblia, (Medellín: Publicaciones FUSBC, 2009), 34) has not just the particularity of answering to the challenges of Mesopotamian myths -and the present ones- about the origin of nature and human being but also to qualify the creation. It has 7 times -the same number as the number of days- the adjective “good” and ends by saying that the Creator himself “felt very good” when he saw the conclusion of his work (Gen. 1:31) or “exceedingly good” (LBA).


\textsuperscript{23} TIMES, Jacques Ellul..., 7.

\textsuperscript{24} DEL SALTO, Teología..., 3

\textsuperscript{25} LONA, ¿Qué es el hombre?, 106.

\textsuperscript{26} LONA, ¿Qué es el hombre?, 100.

\textsuperscript{27} LONA, ¿Qué es el hombre?, 107.

\textsuperscript{28} DEL SALTO, Teología..., 2.
A humble and objective understanding of human finitude and contingency triggers recognition of the divine, where worship and service are natural results and generators of well-being. The opposite is incoherence and motive for the destruction of their humanity (Rom. 1:20-31).

Everything is corrupted by the idolatrous attitude. Man and woman, as individuals essentially in relation to the Creator and the created, mold their context, environment and habitat with their attributions, attitudes and actions. The great rupture between the perfect, harmonious and "very good" of creation is human disobedience and rebellion. In the story of Genesis 1, everything obeys the Creator. The light, the firmament, the earth, the water, the plants and the animals. Everything fulfills the Word of God. It is, it separates, it produces and it is sustained by obedience to the divine dictates. But those who are the "image of God," which bestows powers of freedom and decision, in the story of Genesis 3, are the only created being capable of directly disobeying the Creator. With willful ability "man makes the illusion of wresting from the divinity his prerogatives and considers God as an antagonist to be fought". By not abiding the prohibition of eating a certain fruit, which is no more than the obvious limit for one who has abilities as "the image and likeness of God," the human being vehemently declares his independence, autonomy, and self-control of the Creator. By listening to and supporting the claims of the mythical serpent, men and women legitimize for them another source of truth, externalize their appreciations in front of their discourse, show attitudes of appreciation and purpose and end up exhibiting with their actions the course of their wrong decisions. In short, the men and women noted a lie, valued and embraced it, and finally integrated it into its existence. Thus, what happened in Genesis 3 is nothing more than the formation of a new god, the human being, and the beginning of the consequences of such an act. With the deification of the created enters the death to human reality, irrefutable consequence of the breakdown of submission to the Creator. But death not only subscribes to the individual, it also broadens its relations with the other and its environment. The harmonious relationship with his neighbor is now characterized by imposition and subjugation (Gen. 3:16). The nature, source of well-being and fulfillment, is now cursed, generating discomfort and pain (Gen. 3:17).

The manifestations of death and destruction in the current reality of ICT, where the relations with the other and the environment are distorted and negatively affected, are symptoms of a problem greater than that of excessive, unlimited and irresponsible use. It is the evidence of the formation of a god who has been credited with his salvific discourse, granting him potential beyond his capacities and limitations and has been given with affection and commitment every area of contemporary existence. One lives the consequences of technological divinization. One suffers from cyberidolatry.

Cyberidolatry: A Hermeneutic Model

The divinization of technology, like that of any object or reality, is above all the human desire for self-sufficiency and independence. It is the Edenic idea of pretending to be like God in control of existence and the future. In this perspective, everything can be defiled because it does not depend on the object or reality itself but on the subject. Tim Keller states that:

Everything can function as a false god, especially the best things in this life. We think idols are bad things, but almost never are. The better they are, the more likely we are to hope they can meet our deepest needs and desires.

The human capacity to create idols is sustained by its very weakness and limitation. Christopher Wright states that "we have a tendency to value everything that makes us tremble in wonder when we see our smallness, insignificance, compared to the great magnitudes that surround us". The final result is a secular idolatry as harmful and destructive as the liturgical or cultic one, because they "work detrimental to the essence of our humanity", distorting, degrading and reducing human beings.

However, divinization of objects, such as ICT, dehumanizes even more the human being. "If we worship what is not God we reduce the image of God in ourselves. If we worship what is not even human, we reduce our humanity even more."

Divinization of an object is not produced by its holding or permanent usage. According to Sicre, "the actions are only idolatrous when they are backed by a deeper attitude that divinizes earthly reality, placing affection or trust in it". Keller explains that if "something is more important to you than God, anything that captivates your heart and imagination rather than the Word of God" is a false god.

29 G. RAVASI, Guía espiritual del Antiguo Testamento, (Barcelona, 1992)
30 These three elements, attribution, attitudes and actions are part of the work of Jose Luis Sicre, who defines a process of deification and non-cultic or secular idolatry of the prophets in the Old Testament. To analyze the secular idolatry Sicre made a "scheme made of five factors. The god, his gifts, idolatrous attitude, idolatrous actions and victims". The god, as a purely human construct, is credited falsely benefits or powers that motivate idolatrous attitudes and actions to eventually trigger sacrifices, worship offerings and delivery, or victims. Sicre explains his model observing the worship of Baal: "This scheme is not preconceived and arbitrary. You get to it taking into account a number of idolatrous cults widespread in ancient Israel, especially Baal worship. In the latter, for example, it is warned the existence of a god (Baal), who offers to give gifts (wheat, wool, linen, water) when the man adopts before him an attitude (love, follow) and performs some actions (sacrifices, sacred prostitution, pleads); this cult often involves some victims (oxen, cows)". J.L. SICRE, Los dioses olvidados. Poder y riqueza en los profetas preexilicos, (Madrid, 1979).
31 LONA, Qué es el hombre?, 119.
than God, whatever you expect to provide what only God can
give39 that is an idol. Idolatrous attitude is to place fear, trust and affection in an object or reality determined40. It tends to confuse hobby with idolatry, but “idolatry does not lie as much in the action as in the attitude”41. Being fan of technology, buying and using the latest technological device, having and using a profile on a social network, being considered as a “digital native” does not make someone a cyberidolatrous person. It is when it considers that everything in its being, affections, relations, projections and resources, depend and is by and for the ICT. To the cyberidolatrous the ICT “becomes more fundamental than God for their happiness, the meaning of life and identity”42.

But idolatry does not remain in the plane of the immaterial of beliefs, feelings or perceptions; it materializes through the sacrifices and their victims. Xavier Alegre says “idols are negatively characterized by the facts that demand the sacrifice of many victims by people who love them”43. Destruction and death are consequences of any idolatry because it is intended to divert from the only true source of life to a false god. Wright explains that “false gods destroy and devour lives, health and resources; they distort and limit our humanity; they promote injustice, greed, perversion, cruelty, lust and violence.”44 In this understanding, God revealing himself as jealous, not only of our worship but of all spheres of our life, does so out of love for the human being. Alegre concludes:

The fundamental difference, then, between the God who reveals the Bible and the idols that the Bible denounces would be found in the fact that the true God, the God who revealed Himself to Israel in deliverance from slavery in Egypt and did with He an alliance in Sinai, he is a God who loves human beings, wants his good45.

Sacrifices and Victims of Cyber-Idolatry

For several authors, the problems associated with the appropriation of ICTs are due to the early introduction to the digital world, the excessive promotion of technological appropriation, the increase in internet access and the permanent and rapid emergence of new, attractive and versatile technological developments46. According to Laespada and Estevez, problems can be classified by the existence of legal and illegal harmful content on the Internet, by the action of others using ICT, by scams and frauds supported in electronic and virtual media, by ignorance, recklessness, neglect or combined actions of these three and the abusive use of ICT47.

Among the risks associated with legal or illegal harmful content is promotional information anorexia and bulimia. These conditions, determined by the World Health Organization -WHO- in 2004 as “the third most common chronic condition among adolescent girls in the United States after obesity and asthma”48, are open and legally promoted throughout the Internet. A Google search with acronym “pro ana” -pro anorexia-, “pro mia” -pro bulimia- or “thinspiration” throw thousands of pages, forums, chats, blogs and videos dedicated to informing and promoting diet, exercise and practices to achieve and maintain stereotypes of extreme thinness under the concept of “lifestyles” and “free development of personality,” using a distinctive language that influences and motivates millions of young people in the world to destroy their bodies, lives and families49.

Another of the most prolific legal harmful content in the network is pornography. According to Oscar Tokumura 30% of internet traffic in 2006 was pornography, currently generating higher profits than “Microsoft, Google, Amazon, eBay, Apple and Netflix together”50. This is one of the more searched content on the net, around 68 million queries a day, accounting for 25% of all Google searches. In 2012 there were found about 4.2 million pornographic sites51 and it is estimated that the sex industry in the world exceeds 97 billion dollars52. Feelings of anxiety, power, instant control, excitation and abstinence when people is restrained from pornography are symptoms to consider it today as a psychological pathology whose treatment requires a basic detoxification of at least 10 days, routines and disciplines to combat stimuli and relapses in consumption53. In the worst case the medication with drugs for patient recovery is necessary. There is no legislation against pornography despite the damage generated by its consumption. It is only illegal if minors participate in production. Although it is estimated that:

The average age of access to pornography at the global level is

KELLER, Dioses que fallan, 8.

Sicre defines fear as that feeling of anxiety in the event of losing or not having that object. Trust as “when God ceases to be the only point of support, the only refuge, man seeks other realities that offer him security and absolutizes them” and affection is the displacement of God as a source of love and desire for another reality. Sicre concludes: “In principle, in order to exist a sin of idolatry, there must be an attitude of fear, confidence or absolute attachment to any reality. This means that no action is idolatrous in itself, but only insofar as it responds to one of these attitudes”. Sicre, Los dioses olvidados..., 175.

Keller defines affection as “inability of loving God above all”. Keller, Dioses que fallan..., 177.

41 Sicre, Los dioses olvidados..., 50.

42 Keller, Dioses que fallan..., 10.

43 X. ALEGRE, “Por qué la Biblia presenta a Dios como teniendo celos de los ídolos? Una aproximación a la idolatría ayer y hoy, desde la perspectiva bíblica”, en Revista Latinoamericana de Teología (2012), 221

44 WRIGHT, La Misión..., 226

45 X. ALEGRE, Una aproximación a la idolatría..., 224

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between 6 and 11 years, but there are cases of 4 and 5 years of age. In the United States the average age of onset in pornography is 9 years\(^6\).

Among the risks by the action of other people\(^6\) this category is the cyberharassment\(^6\) harassment to another or others characterized by the use of different digital media\(^7\). “Although cyberbullying -cyberbullfighting- can be considered as a new form or subtype of bullying\(^6\), Bullfighting-, the use of electronic means to commit aggression makes this type of harassment has some different characteristics\(^59\). In this type, the victim has no rest from the mockery, offense, discrimination, persecution because there is no a determined place or time to perform it. It is at all times, in all places and with all kinds of people who participate as “aggressors, victims and active or passive spectators”\(^60\). Among the latter, the same family of the victim may be part and this exacerbates the condition of the affected\(^41\). Cyberbullying began to be treated from 2002\(^62\). At 2005 Bill Besley coined the term to refer to the “use technology as a basis for a deliberate, repeated and hostile behavior developed by an individual or group to harm others\(^63\). At present, the impact of this phenomenon is worldwide. Although “some studies in Europe, Mexico and Brazil indicate that up to 83% of students have dealt in some way (as actors or spectators)\(^64\) in this practice, in other studies “has been found that one in four students is involved in this problem as a victim, an aggressor or both”\(^65\). The United Nations Organization -UN- estimates that 55% of young Latin Americans have suffered cyberbullying\(^66\). At October 31, 2015 in Colombia it was recorded about 9,773 complaints of cyberbullying\(^67\). Victims of cyberbullying experience “sadness, instability, anxiety, feelings of worthlessness and rejection, sleep and food disturbances, poor academic performance and desire not to go to school”\(^68\). The life becomes a nightmare for those victims and many end up in suicide.

One of the practices linked to cybermatoneo is the recording of attacks where videos of rape, beatings or suicide are made to spread them through social networks. Although audiovisuals became evidence and allowed the capture and prosecution of their perpetrators, they exacerbate the trauma of the victims due to the popularization of the act. One form of this modality is the so-called “Happy Beating,” which consists of a “preadolescent or adolescent walking and striking someone, while another person, also another preteen or teenager, records the aggression with a phone with built -in camera”\(^69\). This practice of “being cruel to another person by sending or posting harmful material”\(^70\) is a new nuance of violence, “forms of social aggression using Internet or other digital technologies”\(^71\) highly influenced by the mediation and the desire to be visible through the media.

Another risk related by action of third parties are theft, scams, fraud and extortion supported by digital media. It is estimated that worldwide losses exceed 9,1 billion dollars a year of virtual identity theft - phishing - in Colombia more than 1,400 crime incidents were reported \(^72\). There is also the mode data sequestration -ransomware-, which was the most representative criminal trend \(2016\)\(^73\). During the last three years in Colombia, there were 13,774 complaints of theft by computer and similar media (68%), abusive access to a computer system (13%), violation of personal data (12%) and other offenses under Law...
1273/2009 (7%)\textsuperscript{74}.

But risks with ICT are not triggered only externally. There are those given by ignorance, carelessness, negligence or combined actions of these\textsuperscript{75}. Among them is the cyber sexual harassment, which is the systematic seduction, misleading and manipulated through social networks, chats, forums and mobile from one person to another\textsuperscript{76}. Although in most cases can be generated by an unknown -grooming - there are cases where the harasser is a person known by the victim\textsuperscript{77}. Alarms against cyber sexual harassment light up when victims are minors, however, can also be adults\textsuperscript{78}. In both cases the operation mode is the same. Usually it happens in three stages: first a contact or friendship takes place, then begins a relationship based on mutual trust and finally physical contact occurs, which usually ends up in sexual abuse\textsuperscript{79}. However, the dynamics of cyber sexual harassment can also empower sexual extortion -sexortion-, kidnapping, and trafficking or organs black market. The interest of meeting new people through the network, establishing friendships or virtual relationships, marriage promises, and work or travel abroad are among many the insinuations used in this practice\textsuperscript{80}. An estimated cyber sexual harasser -or groomer- can have on his network more than 200 potential victims\textsuperscript{81}, devoting more than 6 months to gain confidence, esteem and feelings of their victims.

Within the category of reckless use of ICT is the digital self-portrait -selfie- and sexting. The first is a common practice among cell phone users and for its excessive use has been converted according to some research as a generator of "anxiety disorders and depression in adolescents, especially in women, who tend to compare their realities with who see in this ideal world of social networks"\textsuperscript{82}. The self-portrait is currently taking dimensions and applications unthinkable a few years ago. One of such contemporary phenomena is the aftersex, a practice of taking a picture after having sex and then publishes it on social networks, especially Twitter with the hashtag: #aftersex\textsuperscript{83}.

"Experimenting" with his personal image, thus contributing to the construction of identity and self-esteem\textsuperscript{84} is the basis for this practice in young people who do not measure the consequences of posting pictures of their "sexual conquests" and then become an input for cyberharassment or cyberextortion.

Parallel to this phenomenon of self-portrait is sexting. It is the "dissemination or publication of images or videos of a sexual nature, produced by the sender itself, mainly through the mobile phone"\textsuperscript{85}. However, production may also be given with video cameras on computers or tablets. Within the dynamics of sexting is who produces and sends the video (sexting active) and who only receives the material (passive sexting)\textsuperscript{86}. Some studies claim that "older adolescents are more likely to receive sexting. 4% of 12-year-olds have received a message with suggestive images (nude or semi-nude) of a person they know\textsuperscript{87}. Among the main motivations to participate in this practice are

1) The pressure by friends, boyfriends or strangers,
2) The desire to impress other or the group, to which it belongs,
3) Finding a sexual experience,
4) To generate a safe substitute for a sexual relationship,
5) To imitate practices of the group of friends, and
6) To respond to the cultural and sexualized context to which one belongs\textsuperscript{88}.

In 2012 a Latin American study was published, with the participation of 3,538 youth. It concluded that "despite being an increasingly common practice, particularly among young people -66% have posted photos in their social network insinuating be naked or being it\textsuperscript{89} - 70% of them are unaware of the term. The study also found that 56% sent erotic content of themselves as a "sexy gift to your partner" and 40% as a joke of friends. "62% of sexting practitioners fully trust people who share the contents of sexting\textsuperscript{90}. Among the many risks of sexting is possible to determine

1) A loss of privacy,
2) Personal degradation,

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3) Vulnerability to criminal behavior such as grooming, cyberbullying and sextortion.

The last three can trigger the victim such a strong pressure that can take him to suicide. It is estimated that 70% of cases of sexting end in blackmail and extortion, 57% damages the reputation, privacy and image and 61% ends up in child pornography.

Finally, there are the risks of misuse of ICT, which has shades ranging from fear, as nomophobia, to dependence and addiction, such as gambling online, cyberdependence or cybergambling. The nomophobia is a term used from 2012 to define "irrational fear to leave home without a mobile phone." Although there is a debate in the academic community to consider it as an addiction, for many people "speak through the phone develop real restlessness, anxiety, irritability, until they could start again, and for them any call is vital." To have physical or visual contact with the smartphone permanently, to sleep with it, to have the constant feeling that someone will call, to use it anytime and anywhere ignoring other when they are close - phubbing - or while driving, among others, are evidence of a dependence to the mobile. In the case of use of cell phones while driving, there is an approximate 37% reduction of concentration on the wheel and increased up to 70% the risk of an accident. However, cell phone use while walking in the street also generates high risk of injury or death.

The online gambling refers to gambling addiction, especially to games of chance, developed through internet portals. Although pathological gambling is identified clinically, there are other recreational types such as videogames that are not. Despite this, there is already the definition of Internet Gaming Disorder as a phenomenon to be investigated, which is particularly concerned with the high levels of impact on young people of multiplayer online games, "one of the activities that most problems are causing in the net".

In relation to addiction or dependence on the Internet -cybergambling or cybergambling- there is no consensus among experts about the characteristics and scope of this problem. There are several definitions, as well as the analysis of the scope thereof. Catalina García and others perform the following inventory of terms used by various authors:

The problematic Internet use, abuse, compulsive use, pathological use, dependence on Internet, poor use or simply Internet addiction or cybergambling, among others. This terminological profusion demonstrates the difficulty in reaching a consensus on its meaning and diagnosis.

Despite this, some specialists are able to determine the existence of negative consequences in the lives of those with excessive use of the internet. Loss "in controlling its use, which is symptomatic of cognitive, behavioral and physiological level events" are analyzed elements, complemented by the features in the "frequency of use, the money invested, the need or compulsion, as well as the interferes that can cause in the daily life of a person making him stop complying its obligations." Addiction to Internet and everything that moves in it is a debate to define despite the undeniable reality of those who suffer its consequences.

Based on the above, the presence of harmful, fraudulent and distorted content; aggressive, cruel and criminal actions; loss of control, limits and evidence of destruction and death in these issues; it is possible to ratify the cyberidolatry as a sin in today's world. Is a "wrongful act" as defined by Orlando Costas, "any lack of consideration of the welfare of others, all trampling of human dignity and all violence of man by man." It is a relational sin because it significantly affects the person and its relationship to the other. It is structural because it springs from the individual and is manifested in the collective. It is above all a manifestation of a dehumanization characterized by the rupture of being in relationship, with himself, with others and with God. The cyberidolatry is quietly dehumanizing a generation, which worships a false, tyrannical and cruel god who hides behind his flash of beauty and innovation, the physical, familiar, economic and social hazards of its destructive power.
The Cyberidolatry in the Ecclesial Context

With the aim to firstly diagnose the consequences of cyberidolatry in the context of Protestant Christian communities, a random sample of 161 young people from different churches in different municipalities of the Aburrá Valley (Bello, Medellín, Itagüí, Envigado and Sabaneta) was taken. A consultation was made on ownership and use of ICT, participation in social networks, actions and attitudes with cell phones, church involvement, classroom activities and profile of respondents that allowed identifying:

1. Youth population in Protestant Christian churches are not exempt from the social phenomena related to the deification of the technologies. The technological devices are part of their life, they get connected for long periods -96% connect daily, 27% does so permanently and 46% by more than two hours.

2. They share and actively participate in social networks (93%), with an average of 781 contacts in them and only 65% affirmed to have their parents linked to their virtual communities. They did not show measures for evaluation of profiles and 50% affirmed to receive invitations from strangers. These elements are input to the practice of grooming.

3. 14% claimed to have been a victim of cyberbullying, receiving messages of mockery, threats, persecution or intimidation through social network in the last year. 39% declared to know cases in other people. When asked which their attitude was when they saw this content, 55% affirmed that they denounced it and 10% showed to parents and spiritual authorities. Only 2% erased the contents.

4. The nomophobia is a reality in the church’s context. For the 58% the cell phone is first and last thing that sees at day, 25% always maintains eye contact with it, 11% constantly checks whether it received calls. 34% sometimes answer a call no matter where he is and 24% sometimes feel insecure without the cell. 4% avoid areas of no coverage of the cell signal.

5. In 9% there is evidence of sexting practice. 15% were requested a sensual photography in the last year, 61% of whom were women. 25% of requests came from a stranger in a chat, 38% from a friend in networks, 16% from boyfriends and 3% from husbands.

6. 28% of respondents affirmed to be exposed by pornographic content mainly sent by their boyfriends, in the case of women (42%), and by strangers in chat or social network friends (35%) in the case of the men.

7. 35% of respondents claimed to know the problems associated with the use of ICT within the churches, 30% of these claims come from believers with more than 5 years within the church. Only 6% identified their pastors and parents are trained on these issues.

Conclusion

Technology and ICT are no the savior god of human condition, or the determining factor in their progress and achievement. They are simple tools created and given to the welfare and progress of human beings. They will pass and will cease to be as will do everything created. They are not worthy of trust, affection and complete dedication. They are simply “like straw before the wind, like chaff swept away by a gale” (Job 21:18). To deify it is insane, baseless and with terrible consequences. Let’s go back to the giver of life and find in Him the very essence of humanity, one that is inconceivable without the harmony of relations in every aspect of life.

When performing the hermeneutical bridge between the realities described in Scripture and lived today, it is possible to denounced the destructive presence of cyberidolatry. The way is therefore, to look again at the highest humanizing expression of history, the Incarnation of the Word, and from there to have an understanding of the truth in the technological discourse in order to bring life back to the context of the technological reality. While human being in Eden incarnated the lies, in Belen truth became flesh to redeem mankind.

It remains to live dying to technological gods, dedicating existence to the search of the one true God and focus life with a humble and rational conviction that being God, the human being finds life.

References

1 Carbonell X (2012) Internet and mobile addiction: a review of Spanish empirical studies, “Papers of the Psychologist 33: 82-89.