How Cell Phones Affect Our Lives  By Lily Mae, eHow Contributor

The advent of the cell phone has certainly affected the lives of users--and non-users--of this modern technology. They can be one of the most convenient forms of technology, and at the same time, they can be a real nuisance.

Safety
Perhaps the greatest advantage of having a cell phone is the safety that they can bring. Have you ever been stranded on the side of the road with car trouble or lost in the middle of the night? Thanks to the cell phone, this no longer has to be a major problem. With the touch of a few buttons, help can be on its way.

Keeping in Touch
Never before has keeping in touch been so convenient. No matter who you need to stay in close contact with--your husband, wife, kids, parents, boss--the cell phone enables you to do just that.

Surfing the Web
The majority of today's cell phones are capable of connecting to the Internet. So if you need to find directions, check out a recipe, or just want to check your email or Facebook, just pull out your cell phone, and a world of information is at your fingertips.

Hazardous to Your Health
Despite the benefits, there are several negative aspects associated with this modern marvel. Studies have suggested that the cell phone can pose several health problems. From possible links to cancer to traffic accidents, the use of a cell phone can be detrimental to your health.

Excuse Me?
Have you ever been in a restaurant trying to enjoy a nice dinner, and it's interrupted by someone at the next table screaming into his cell phone? Unfortunately, many people do not have etiquette when it comes to using their phones. If you think you're annoyed, imagine what that guy's server must think.

Tool for Theft
These gadgets have been linked to crime. Most cell phones have cameras, which can be used by the unscrupulous. There have been reports of people stealing credit card information or ATM pin numbers just by snapping a picture. Hard to believe, but it's true, not to mention scary.

Read more: http://www.ehow.com/facts_5768312_cell-phones-affect-lives.html#ixzz2gzzrSwFl
How Have Cell Phones Changed Our Society?

By Gina Poirier, eHow Contributor

Perhaps you have had one of those moments when you look around in a crowded public place and it seems that everyone is either talking or tapping a message on a cellphone. Older individuals might wonder how things ever became this way, but for younger mobile phone users, this is the norm and all they’ve ever known. Cellphones, texting and smartphone apps are here to stay and have changed society in important ways, for better.

Mobility and Freedom
A mobile phone frees you from the restriction of only being able to take calls using a wired landline. If you are waiting for an important phone call, you can still take a lunch break or run an errand without fear of missing it. You can make business calls, check your bank account balance or chat with family and friends while commuting to work or waiting to board an airplane. With the advent of multi-functional smartphones, you can also send and receive emails, tweet on Twitter, interact with Facebook friends and employ other social networking tools while you are on the go. Even if you cannot talk, you can text and browse.

Attitudes and Expectations
Social norms have changed as hundreds of millions of people, from pre-teens to octogenarians, commonly carry cellphones. Many theaters and conference halls display signs reminding patrons to silence their cellphones to avoid disrupting others. New social rules have evolved – it may or may not be appropriate to answer phone calls in various settings such as on a date, during a job interview, over a family dinner, in the checkout line at the supermarket or during a meeting. Likewise, while it was customary in the past for an individual not to call ahead if he was running late for an appointment, with today’s ubiquitous cellphone, a call is not only appropriate but an expected courtesy.

Connection
People who were previously "off the map" in remote locations can now connect with the rest of the world. Many developing countries that were unable to build the infrastructure necessary for landlines now have cellular towers instead. Millions of people who never had access to a traditional phone have convenient access to pay-as-you go mobile phones. In the U.S., homeless individuals may qualify for government-subsidized cellphone plans, enabling them to connect with social workers, family and other support channels. It is also possible to make a 911 emergency call from a cellphone.

Privacy
In some ways, cellphone users have more privacy, but in other ways, they have less. On one hand, you can easily carry on a conversation outside of your home or office without co-workers or family listening in. On the other hand, you cannot "get away" from the people in your life unless you travel to a remote location where your mobile phone cannot pick up a signal. Most gregarious teenagers love cellphones and the freedom of being able to talk and text with friends without parents watching over their shoulder. Yet, many parents agree to give their kids cellphones so they are always just a phone call away wherever they go.

Read more: http://www.ehow.com/info_8290352_cell-phones-changed-society.html#ixzz2h012rtMi
The Effects of Cell Phones on Teenagers  
By Laura Reynolds, eHow Contributor

Cell phones are a great invention and a popular way to communicate---half of all Americans and Europeans use one. They allow us to work on the go and stay in touch. When put in the hands of a teenager, however, they can have some effects of which adults should be aware.

**Security**
Cell phones provide security for teens and parents who worry about them; help is never out of reach and parents can check on their children easily.

**Socialization**
Young people's ability to communicate is extended---they can reach more people (including family) on a daily basis with cell phone speech and texting.

**Individualization**
While extending teens' ability to communicate, cell phones also limit feedback to expression to one's peers (or those on the "friends" list), making life more solitary by narrowing the variety of personalities encountered in daily life.

**Emotional Attachment**
 Teens' natural tendency to follow trends may result in an emotional attachment to a cell phone (in its latest model) that is out of scale with its actual value. Some teens may even develop an "addiction" to the device that excludes anything not viewed or heard through it.

**Virtual Life**
Cell phones allow only verbal, disembodied relationships at a time when adolescents should be working on developing a sense of their own---and others'---physical space.

**Limits**
Texting and short, spontaneous conversation limit development of the ability to converse in complete thoughts and form complete sentences.

**Safety**
Cell phones are a distraction---a hazard for new drivers, people who lack adult experience, reaction ability and spatial perception.

Read more: http://www.ehow.com/facts_4895272_effects-cell-phones-teenagers.html#ixzz2h021Z0j9
The convenience of mobile phones cannot be denied, but neither can the way they have negatively impacted daily living. Some of the effects can be negated if boundaries are set, such as not answering the phone when running errands so time is used more efficiently.

**Spillover**
The line between work and personal time has practically been eradicated because the phones enable us to be contacted at any time.

**Dangerous**
Stories are commonplace of people having an accident because they were distracted while driving and talking on a mobile phone.

**Health**
While the topic remains controversial, there are people who believe the microwave radiation the phones emit can cause such problems as cancer and Alzheimer's disease from prolonged use.

**Environment**
Wirefly.org reports approximately 100 million mobile phones are replaced annually. If they aren't recycled, resources such as glass and metal go to waste, and toxins such as arsenic and lead seep into the ground.

**Manners**
People can be inconsiderate when using the phone in public, doing things such as talking during a movie, holding up a line at a store and bumping into others because they aren't paying attention to where they're walking.

**Addiction**
DrugRehabTreatment.com reports there are teens who become addicted to using the phone and have to be weaned of its usage by parents.

Read more: http://www.ehow.com/facts_5217378_negative-impact-mobile-phones-society.html#ixzz2h059yyTh