

This speech has been shortened, but it remains in the same order, form, and meaning *Introduction*

Imagine a world where information is at your fingertips, where global communication is instantaneous, and knowledge is limitless. For example, educational platforms like Khan Academy offer free courses on a multitude of subjects, democratizing education. The Cambridge Analytica scandal highlighted how data harvested from millions of Facebook users was used for political advertising without consent. Social media platforms like Facebook have reunited long-lost family members and enabled social movements by connecting like-minded individuals. The thesis of this article is that while the Internet has been a revolutionary force for global connectivity and information exchange, it has also introduced challenges that society continues to grapple with. It has opened doors to a wealth of knowledge and connectivity while also exposing us to the dangers of misinformation and privacy breaches. We must strive to harness the Internet's potential responsibly, ensuring that it remains a force for empowerment rather than a tool for manipulation. Born from the ashes of the Cold War as a means of resilient communication, the Internet has evolved into the backbone of modern society.