



"IN SPITE OF ALL THE MEN OF GOOD WILL, ALL THE OPTIMISTS, ALL THE DOERS OF HISTORY, THE CIVILIZATIONS OF THE WORLD ARE BEING RINGED ABOUT WITH A BAND OF STEEL."
— JACQUES ELLUL, *THE TECHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY* (1964), P. 127

Hello! Thank you for subscribing to the Anti-Tech Collective's monthly [newsletter](#). What follows are some of our upcoming events (real-world gatherings are currently being planned), a recent update to the website, the first episode of our podcast, a book recommendation, an anti-tech homework assignment (for those that are in school), and a short list of things that you can do to contribute!

Click the link below to see a press release authored by ATC member EJ Haas featuring ATC founding-member Dr. David Skrbina, with some information about the anti-tech movement and ATC's role within it.

[ATC Press Release](#)

Upcoming Events:

- Saturday, April 24th (12:00PM-1:00PM EST): Biweekly ATC Member Meeting
- Saturday, May 1st (12:00PM-1:00PM EST): Public Anti-Tech Discussion
([Zoom link](#))

Recent Update:

On the website, we added a Writer's Spotlight section. This is designed to draw attention to writers from our community and other independent anti-tech writers. Currently broadcasted is the group's newest member, Nayla Agameya, whose piece is on the question of technological optionality.

If you have something you would like to be showcased in the Writer's Spotlight, please submit your work to antitechcollective@gmail.com.

This Month's ATCast:

In the inaugural episode of The ATCast, hosts Ryan Glavin and Griffin Kiegiel interview Dr. Skrbina about his conception of technology, his understanding of the technological problem, and his proposal for remedying it—"Creative Reconstruction". (Full interview will be released later this month)

[WATCH HERE](#)



Episode 1

**Dr. David
Skrbina**

**on Creative
Reconstruction**



Book of the Month:

Going along with this month's ATCast, we are recommending everyone take a look at Dr. Skrbina's books, including the highly relevant [The Metaphysics of Technology](#). This book is a powerful tool for situating the technological question in the Western Philosophical tradition. In it, Skrbina delineates his proposal for addressing the technological question through "Creative Reconstruction". The twelfth chapter is available as a free download on the ATC website, and the full book is available for purchase at multiple retailers.

For more recommended reading, check out the [Library section](#) of the website. It features a wide variety of anti-tech literature, and some of the pieces are provided for free.



Anti-Tech Homework:

The first of many anti-tech homework assignments has been worked out by ATC members Nayla Agameya and Griffin Kiegiel, and goes as follows:

For all High School and University students, this is your challenge!

Ever notice how technology eclipses every note, assignment, and research paper you write? How dependent are you on search engines and online platforms for finding sources? How often do you use Microsoft Word, Pages, or Google Docs to take notes and write essays? For crying out loud, what would you do without autocorrect?!

We'll bust out the old #2 because we're going old school! **This month we challenge you to write a research paper, essay, or a month's worth of class notes completely by hand. Additionally, if you are writing a research paper or essay, your sources must come from physical books available at your local library (or your own bookshelf).** The goal is to actually take the time to digest and retain information, rather than rely on technology to provide diluted, and potentially biased, versions of the truth.



Keyboards enable students to jot down notes without thoroughly thinking about what's being said, because the efficiency of the machine makes them feel like they're in a time mirage. They can take notes faster and so they feel obliged to recreate entire lecture slides and/or copy their teacher's words verbatim, but these are ineffective methods of encoding information. (What's worse is when students record lectures or download slides such that they aren't even typing anything at all, and thus not encoding anything either.)

Taking notes on paper is scientifically proven to be the best way for your brain to diligently process information. When you take notes on paper, you distill the "meat and potatoes" of what the lecturer is saying into your own condensed and succinct version. Effectively summarizing your notes in an organized fashion and practicing good handwriting is a killer combo for optimum retention and digestion, which out beats the passive encoding of information that's done via a laptop, phone, or tablet. Handwriting notes takes longer, which encourages you to make every word count, reduce the jibber jabber, and truly think about the lesson at hand.

Send proof of your participation to antitechcollective@gmail.com and we'll post it on the website! It can be a copy of your paper, a photo of you at the library (make sure to get the cobwebs in frame!), a photo of your notes, or even a short essay describing your experience.

Get to work, and remember, "The pen is mightier than the keyboard."

Other Ways to Contribute:

We always encourage our readers to submit their suggestions, ideas, writings, recommendations, and questions. Think something on the website could be improved? Have a book recommendation for the Library? Want to just chat with someone about technology? Send an email to antitechcollective@gmail.com, whatever the content. We love hearing from the community and are always looking to improve and expand the anti-tech movement.

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Come join the discussions happening on [the ATC forum](#). Some of the most recent topics include "What is technology?" and "The role of technology in artistic expression". Dissenting opinions welcome!

If you are interested in seeing the latest in anti-tech news, follow our account on Instagram ([@antitechcollective](#)) or check out the [News Feed on our website](#).

Lastly, if you are feeling generous, we do accept donations. 100% of all donations go toward maintaining the website, planning an anti-tech future, and putting that plan into action. The donation form is available at the [bottom of our website's homepage](#).

See you next month,
Anti-Tech Collective

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