



Kevin Kelly

Technology Visionary

TOPIC: Technology/Media

SUBTOPICS: The Future; Innovation; Inspiration; Life Science

BIG IDEAS:

Why More Technology is Good for the World

Technology has become the primary driver of society and civilization. New technologies alter politics, the arts, social norms, science, and even our identities. The progress of technology is making the world better, but no body is very happy about it. Progress is out of fashion. Yet the march towards the next innovation seems inevitable. Do we even have a choice? We do. We have a choice in how to devise

technology that will increase the possibilities and opportunities in the world. The answer to a bad idea is a better idea, rather than to stop thinking, so we should be increasing the good technology in the world.

BIOGRAPHY

Kevin Kelly can legitimately claim to be a close witness to the technology revolution of the past 30 years. From his office in Pacifica, California, he continues to chart the trends and ripple effects of technology, tools, media and the arts, social behavior, and a multitude of other topics that catch his attention. He shares his insights through his influential website <http://www.kk.org>, his books, lectures, and advisory participation in a variety of organizations.

Kevin helped launch *Wired* magazine in 1993, and served as its Executive Editor until January 1999. He remains the Senior Maverick for *Wired*. In 1994 and 1997, during Kevin's tenure, *Wired* won the National Magazine Award for General Excellence (the industry's equivalent of two Oscars). From 1984 to 1990, he was publisher and editor of the *Whole Earth Review*, a journal of unorthodox technical news. The non-profit *Whole Earth Review* (formerly called Co-Evolution Quarterly) is a small, yet influential, journal that consistently published trend-making topics years before other publications noticed them, including virtual reality, Internet culture, and artificial intelligence.

Kevin was a founding board member of the WELL, the influential online community launched in 1985. The WELL is considered by the growing Internet population to be a model of online culture, and a pioneer in developing online communities. He launched Cyberthon in 1990, the first round-the-clock virtual reality jamboree. Kevin was also co-founder of the annual Hackers' Conference, a weekend rendezvous which in 1984 brought together three generations of legendary computer programmers for the first time.

Kevin is the author of *New Rules for the New Economy* and *Out of Control: The New Biology of Machines, Economic and Social Systems*. *Fortune* magazine called *Out of Control* "essential reading for all executives." Kevin's writing has appeared in many national and international publications such as *The New York Times*, *The Economist*, *Time*, *Harper's*, *Science*, *GQ*, and *Esquire*. His photographs have appeared in *LIFE* and other national magazines.

Kevin is a member of the Global Business Network, a consulting group based in San Francisco, California that specializes in creating scenarios of the future for global businesses. Kevin is also a board member of The Long Now Foundation (www.longnow.org), which is a group of concerned individuals building a clock and library that will last 10,000 years.

Before taking up the consequences of technology, Kevin was a nomadic photojournalist. One summer he rode a bicycle 5,000 miles across America. For most of the 1970s, he was a photographer in remote parts of Asia, publishing his photographs in national magazines.

He wrote a monthly travel column for *New Age Journal*. In the early 1980s he published and edited the first magazine devoted to walking, and ran a mail order catalog specializing in budget travel around the world. Kevin has no college or university degrees.