

Sophie-Marie Ranner:

We are no robots

We are here, yet we are not.

We hear you, we listen, and we try to follow your instructions, but we are no robots.

We use our phones to pass the time because you are already too exhausted from work to engage with us.

It is crazy how often schools and parents tell us to do our homework, play outdoors or put away our phones. And yet, when we use ChatGPT to finish our assignments – allowing us more time to spend outside without our devices – they criticize us.

School life is challenging. We are expected to learn things we may never need again, especially as AI technologies will do all the hard work for us. So, why should we bother doing our homework on our own, right?

AI is changing society, but not necessarily for the better. Many young people rely on AI to assess their health or to guide them through specific tasks and that's not okay, because in this way we will kill ourselves by becoming stupider and making AI technologies smarter and more powerful.

Our society is divided, and younger generations, in particular, struggle with mental health problems such as not being able to properly control their anger.

But what the younger generations desire is the "old love," a so-called love where you stay faithful to your partner and do something for the relationship. The younger generation longs for the kind of love that once emphasized faithfulness and commitment. Yet, this is also the very generation that destroyed this "old love" they so desperately desire.

So, when we speak of changing the world, we're not just referring to AI technologies or the environment; we're also talking about the transformation of humanity itself.

Gen Z always talks about changing the world, but what if these changes lead to unintended consequences? What if we destroy our already divided world? What can we do to stop hatred, cruelty and systemic injustices that allow men to harm women without facing any consequences? How can we, a generation that exists in both the past and the future, but rarely in the present, create meaningful change in the here and now?

We are the future, but what if there is no future for us or for the generations that follow – simply because we are no robots?