

THE FUTURE CHILD

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Hello, I am Angelica.
I am 8 years old....I am the future.



You need to understand what I am learning to believe,
how I think about my future,
what my world view is.

My world is already different from the one you grew up in.



My life expectancy is that I will live till
over 80...

I will be alive and well in the 2080's

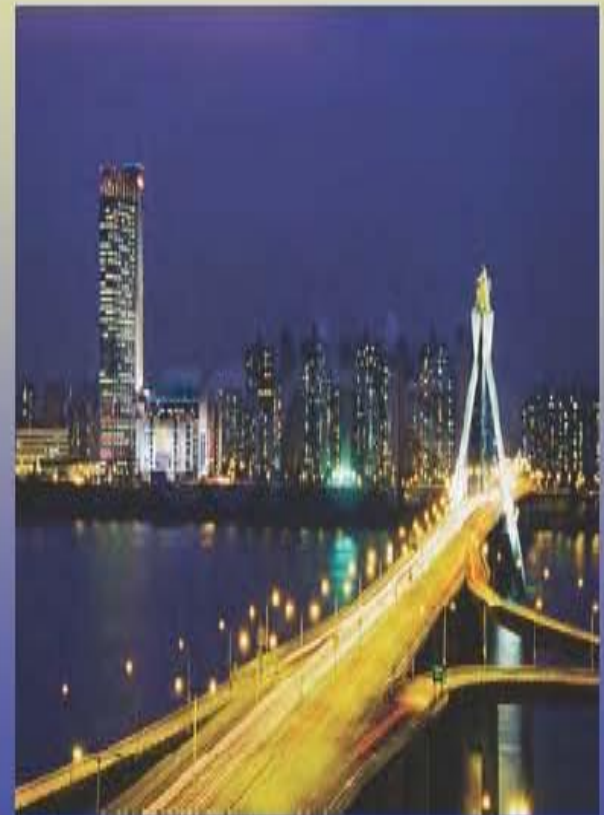
and my children will live to see the
22nd century.





Can you imagine what my world will be like?

Wherever I live or work it will certainly be
Multicultural,
Multinational
and multi-faith.

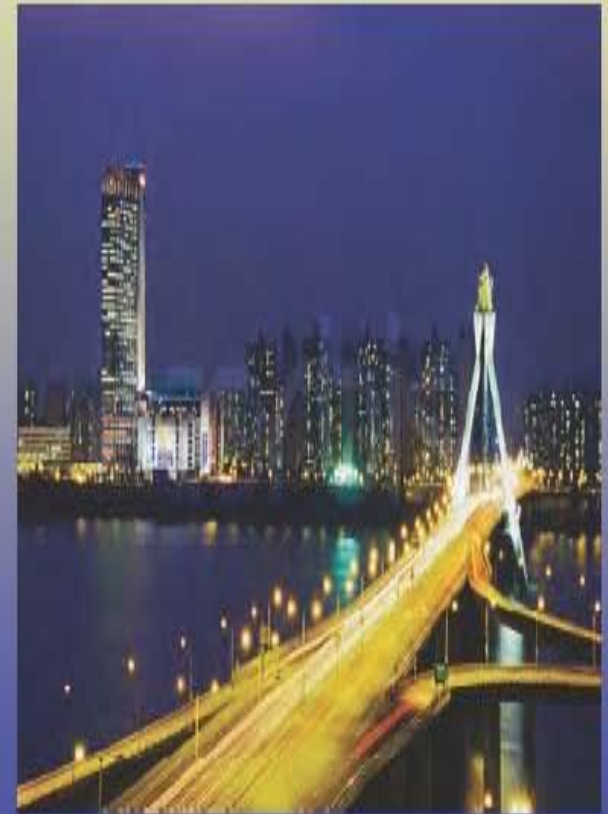


When I prepare for a job I will have to consider the fact that I need to be a global citizen.



**My world is likely to be borderless.
It will not matter what nationality I have,
because my world will be smaller,**

**people will move about,
and most workplaces will be internationalised.**



I will spend holidays in China, visit South America often and I will work for periods in Africa.

It is likely my home will speak a second language.



My world will experience

World pollution, environmental disasters, diminishing resources and over-populated cities.





Environmentally what happens within the borders of one country will no longer be solely that country's business.



By the time I start work, environmental responsibilities will be enforced internationally.

The effects of global warming are already evident.

People living in low-lying areas will try to migrate, often illegally, and often in large numbers, to an already occupied country above sea level.

My generation will have to deal with all this.



I am uneasy about changes in families.

There is a 40% chance that
I will not grow up with both my parents,
My siblings or my grandparents.



My generation is not keen to have babies.

Wealthy families will have less than 1 child per household,

poor families will have 3 times as many.



**Self programming and artificially intelligent computers
will shoulder many of the tasks now being done by humans.**



I will live in a 'smart' home.

We will build living platforms
that will orbit the earth and create colonies in space.



I will probably be employed in an internationally owned firm.

My job will not be located where it used to be.



The 9 -5 working day,...

- the 5 day working week
- salaried employment based on hours spent at the work place,
- and regular holidays based on the seasons

Will have gone.



The really prosperous nations in my world will have small populations and few physical resources.

The commodities they trade will be.....

- non-material
- technical skills
- brain power
- and know how.



My richest friends will work with problem solving skills, problem identifying skills and in strategic brokerage.



My potential employers will insist on :-

- **Well-developed Interpersonal and co-operative skills**
- **A high level of self-motivation and personal intelligence**
- **Flexibility, adaptability and creativity**

And.....



- Deeper levels of thinking and problem solving

- Resourcefulness and Initiative

- Well developed Literacy and Numeracy skills

- Community and global awareness

- and Technological capabilities



I do not expect to spend all my life in the employment of one company.

No company is likely to remain unchanged for that long anyway.



They will talk about 'creating value through people'.

They will often refer to themselves as knowledge workers.

That's the kind of job I want to have.



I will manage my own career.

I may change jobs or relocate 17 or so times during my working life.

At least 3 of those changes will be major ones.



When I leave school everyone of my classmates will be expected to undertake some form of post-schooling training.

and continuous study or learning will be facts of life for all my generation.... throughout all our lives.



In a world like this, it is important for me to know what I stand for.



I will look to my school to help me form my values and decide on my system of beliefs.



I already learn as much from television as I do from school.

I spend more time with TV than I do with my teachers.

Most of the stories I know will come from TV, film or video.



I will not read a lot of books, I will be discouraged from spending time with books in many incidental ways.

I will not write as neatly as my parents.



Computers are changing the way my schooling is arranged.

I will have access to an enormous amount of information and I will consult almost any library and government department in the world.



I will find out things through the computer that my teacher will know little about.

I will have a different view about knowledge and studying.



The old way of learning;

By steps and stages

By the sequencing of learning into one best path

By traditional scientific approaches

Or by having curriculum divided neatly into subjects

..... will have passed.



Knowledge for me will be a web of inter-connections where I access interesting information from many angles.

Words like 'subjects', 'classes', 'grades', and 'promotion' will make no sense to me.



I will study Shakespeare, Wordsworth and Milton, Buddhist text from India, Greek tragedies, novels from South Korea, the history of China and the politics of South America.



Do you know what an international curriculum looks like
and how it can be taught?



I will not sit for final exams at the end of my last year at
school

.....that would seem a silly notion to me.



I will be able to choose my assessments and which certificates I present for.



My school will hire more adults (technical, computing, tutoring, evaluation) to supplement our school work.

Some of my teaching will be done by sophisticated technological devices.



**My school will have comparatively fewer teachers
than yours had ,
but they will be better paid and more highly qualified.**



My school will say I need to be a global citizen.

I know what that means...

I hope you do.



All these things I have talked about are raw materials I use to weave my life together.



I want to be hopeful and happy and comfortable about my future.



It doesn't help if adults keep telling me gloomy things about the future.

Education is all about hope isn't it?



Most of all I want to be wise about what to believe about me and my world.

I want to know what the wisest people on earth believe.



I want the world to be a beautiful place for my grandchildren.

I want to know how to be a success with my life.



My school teachers are important to me because they tell me how to deal with the future....

The long, long future.



So do you know what to teach me?

**Do you know what I need to learn,
and how I learn?**

**Are you confident that you can design
a curriculum which will equip me
to live in my world?**

My brave new world?





**My name is Angelica
and I am sitting
in one of your classrooms today.**





**MY DEAR TEACHERS,
WILL YOU NOW STAND
BY ME AND TAKE ME
TO MY FUTURE?**

