

The use and abuse of Teleportation.

Its effects on civilisation and subsequent efforts to remedy them.

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Teleportation had long been a dream of humanity but was stymied by the truculent behaviour of nature itself, namely the reluctance of electrons to be observed and so be copied or transported to another location (or even mapped). Advances in 3D printing enabled this limitation to be sidestepped, now an object was scanned and then replicated at its destination. The master retained on file could be duplicated an unlimited number of times, removing the need for conventional production which effectively ended the manufacturing industry¹.

As the technology was refined, organic, as well as inorganic, items could be 'transmitted'. Animals soon followed, the final stage of the transfer was a resuscitation with a high outcome of success. Dr Martenson² was the first human to transfer themselves, resulting in a clone but without the memories and life experiences of the original. The subsequent trial [H.T v Martenson³] and deletion (or murder) of the copy led to the banning of human teleportation for the next 70 years. It wasn't until Chun and Grendal⁴ perfected the copying of a mind (for the purpose of transferral to machine) that instant travel became a reality.

Now a person could enter a booth and be instantly (in actuality a delay of several hours as the new host was printed) transported to anywhere on the planet. As a result of the Martenson trial, only one manifestation of an entity was allowed at any time and so the original form was destroyed. This raised several concerns about the sanctity of life and what actually constituted a human being⁵. Immortality was now achievable by taking a 'master' scan of your body which would then be used in subsequent transmissions effectively resetting the body each time you travelled. The ability to copy minds allowed for them to be backed up in case of accident and so it was common for the transportation booths to also offer this option.⁶

This had several implications, if a woman was pregnant she had the choice to carry it to term either by not travelling or to allow the scan to be updated each time (this was viewed with unease as the foetus's mind was not scanned and so the gestation period was in effect a blank to it⁷). Initially the majority of women opted for the former and once given birth would reset their bodies back to a pre pregnancy time, but in time having children became unfashionable and soon frowned upon as selfish due to the constraints upon society caused by immortality, namely the population rapidly increasing⁸ to unsustainable levels.

Once it became the norm to only transmit the mind a number of other scenarios presented themselves, gender was now a choice, body type a matter of fashion resulting in nations of identical people.⁹ Only the mind was viewed as unique but this too changed as it became possible to alter memories.¹⁰ Originally this was to remove traumatic events (who would want to spend eternity weighed down by unpleasant ones?), but the next logical step was to replace them rather than leave gaps.¹¹ The ethical dilemma of using another's memories was fiercely debated but became accepted

1 H.K Fellows, The Age of Dreams: Home manufacturing in the 21st Century

2 M. Davies & F. Quato, Dr Martenson - the destroyer of mankind?

3 Ibid.

4 L. Chun & K. Grendal, Transferral of the mind to a storage medium

5 Rev. Fr. S. Mohlek, Where art thou God? Questions about the immortal soul in printed bodies.

6 P. Torohanga, The End of Death: Modern Man's new dilemma.

7 Holst, Withers & Fuller, Identity – Questions about gestational cloning.

8 W.E.P.K Mathews, 30 Billion People – when will the Earth say enough?

9 F. Noly, Which Body is best ... Summer! (Best Body Series)

10 U. Cahight & U. Cahight(v), Who am I? Who are you? Implications of memory manipulation.

11 Ibid.

and then ubiquitous over time.¹² It rapidly homogenised the population, a by-product being the reduction from thirty five billion to several hundred million in less than a thousand years.¹³ This consolidation led to the next phase; the colonisation of other planets.¹⁴ Many had been identified as being suitable for human life but due to the limitations of space travel it would take centuries¹⁵ to reach them. This was solved by the creation of ships that were sent out with the necessary technology to enable them to create teleportation centres at their destinations. Initial images were stored on ship to be imprinted once at destination, the colonists once established would often transmit their experiences back to Earth.¹⁶ The first such memories precipitated the next great change, the experiences of the colonisers were integrated in to the default pattern making a strange melange of people who had never stepped foot off the planet recalling the time they were chased by exotic creatures or walked under multiple moons.¹⁷

This caused a brief period of excitement in what for many was a life dominated by ennui¹⁸, the population on Earth numbered less than in pre-industrial times, those living on other planets not many more.¹⁹

It was agreed to become discrete²⁰, the sharing of memories stopped, natural conception became the norm allowing and even celebrating genetic variations, it becoming a point of pride to be different with the most desirable body types jealously guarded.²¹

Teleportation is still used, it is the most efficient and expedient method of transportation, and without it interplanetary travel would still be consigned to fiction. But individuality is valued and preserved, people now change, some have even embraced the effects of ageing.

Perhaps, one day, there will even be brave (or foolish) individuals willing to accept an end to their eternal existence.²²

12 U. Cahight & U. Cahight(v), Who am I? Who are you? Implications of memory manipulation.

13 J78c0231-821-4, Chatterwick Chronicles – the dullness of onanistic conversations.

14 R39a4839-303-2, Stars, your destination?

15 Ibid.

16 Ibid.

17 G42c8933-233-1, I hunted a Snarklebeast in my pyjamas.

18 T42c8933-233-7, When Everybody is the same, We soon get tired of each other.

19 Ibid.

20 Sally Newform h528f422fb53v09, Why I don't care what you think, and neither should you.

21 Holdfast Shinelimbs h231m621hy82v13, The Murder of Marlon Buffframe h177f412de75v01

22 Lollon Gracemove d633f825gg94v67, Death – the end?