

Nothing to Compare!

It's Not Worse, Just Different

Silvana Jelcic

BEFORE YOU READ: Discuss what we mean when we say, “There is nothing to compare.”

Games from my childhood and games from today are so different. There is nothing to compare!

Years ago, our environment was safer. There were fewer cars, and our parents felt safe letting us play outside, more or less alone. In modern society, that is not acceptable. We need to have control over the children’s play and observe them all the time because there is traffic and pollution, and neighborhood alleys are not the safest places anymore.

Also, these days, our children are exposed to technology from the earliest ages. When computers became common in our households, we changed our way of living and our children’s way of playing. I will not say it is now worse than it was before. It is just different—same as our childhood was different from the childhood of our parents and grandparents.

We all should try to adjust to changes and learn how to use the benefits of technology, not just criticize it. For example, it is awesome how my friend’s 11-year-old son is able to learn a foreign language by playing online

games with children from other countries. It is great how he can talk and see his friends online whenever he wants, and he does not have to depend on someone to drive him or wait for a bus for hours to play with them.

We have to admit that our children are sometimes smarter than we are where technol-

ogy is involved. I remember when I bought a smart TV. My son had no problem understanding all the features, even though he was only 12 years old. In contrast, my TV is still a source of mystery for me—even now, years later!

Times are changing, and for us, it is important to embrace all changes and learn how to make the best of technology.



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Lots to Contrast

List some of the ways that Jelcic’s childhood is different from her children’s.

Then	Now