

ABSTRACT

FEAR AND LOATHING IN STEINBECK COUNTRY: FACTORS AFFECTING TECHNOLOGY CHANGE AND SKILL ACQUISITION IN A CENTRAL CALIFORNIA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Primary and secondary education is being pushed to increase and improve the integration of technology into the education-employment cycle. Educators must, therefore, become more comfortable with technology so that the change in levels of technology used and education provided can change. The purpose of this study is to review and highlight several important factors affecting technology change and skill acquisition, which are self-perception of abilities and attitudes toward computers and technology, including self-efficacy, motivation, and anxiety. A survey instrument was completed by 163 respondents as an example of current self-perceptions and attitudes towards technology. Significance was discovered when considering the effects of independent, personal characteristics on perceptions of ability and all attitudinal factors as they related to education level and training.

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