

Making education equality

Kali, a 17 year old girl from Ibadan, Nigeria, is passionate about studying; she has read every book from the school library, studied hard for her finals and has great TOEFL score. More than everything, Kali wants to study architecture and make her home city beautiful. But what should a young girl do, if she has two older brothers, already studying in college, and her parents have no more money to give higher education to one more child? 20 years ago, Kali would have found a job to get a room with the minimum living conditions, food to keep her alive and a couple of dresses to go to work in. But in the time of technology, thousands of young men and women, just as this particular African girl, are able to become educated and get better future, not even leaving their homes, through the internet.

Internet brought a great number of opportunities in studying and gave the ability to get a degree for everyone: from Oksana, who studies in NTUU "KPI" in Kyiv, to Ching from village in China - without any need to move to a different country and having to pay a number of fees, which is mostly important for international students. And what about people with disabilities? It is definitely more comfortable for them to stay in the environment they are used to than move to a completely different place and having to adjust. Moreover, it enables people from poor families to be awarded for their knowledge, not the ability to pay tuition or not, bringing more equality to the world. In long-term economic outlook, using internet as a way of massive education will result in better employees, as college students will be rated more equally and those, who come from poor families, will get a chance to express.

Getting knowledge online has visible benefits, provided above, however, there are still people against it, stating that it is impossible to concentrate on studying at home, with a great number of distractions, and without visible control from the professor. Their beliefs are totally right, it is definitely hard to concentrate without the pressure of physically being in the institution, attending classes and seeing professors, but this makes online education so special – it gives benefits only to the hardworking. Only 5-7% of all students finish online courses, and, no doubts, they are extremely motivated in getting something new. Sometimes this knowledge changes not only their lives, but the lives of other people. However, if a student is lazy and unwilling to study, his diploma will be nothing more than a piece of paper with the courses names on it. In other words, a diligent and hard-working person will always find a way to study and will do everything possible to get a degree and fulfill her or his dreams. What online education can do is giving everybody a chance to become better, equal opportunities to start with and a way to improve the world as a whole.