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## future technology wiki Unemployment...is technology a possible culprit?

Posted by Google Beta User - 2010/02/10 02:16

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You can self-check out not just at supermarkets, but even libraries now. Plus every year, more retail is done online. Now as some places need less bodies so to speak, if you lose a job at such a place, and you're looking for more of the same kind of jobs wouldn't it obviously be harder? I was chatting with someone late last year, someone further in their career, and they told me that whatever one chooses to do, or whatever they are, from a sales associate to a computer programmer, that they should protect themselves by having attributes or skills that 1. aren't a dime a dozen and that 2. won't be done by a computer/robot in the foreseeable future.

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Posted by The Cheesehusker, Trade Warrior - 2010/02/10 02:16

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Posted by stephenJ - 2010/02/10 02:16

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Posted by Dan Bretta - 2010/02/10 02:16

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i look forward to the day when the unemployment rate is 100%, because we're all on permanent vacation while the robots and cyborgs do everything we don't want to do. Will we still have to tip? Dan

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Posted by tom\_sawyer70@yahoo.com - 2010/02/10 02:16

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Posted by Kyle T. Jones - 2010/02/10 02:16

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On Feb 1, 1:13 pm, Google Beta User<wanyik...@gmail.com> wrote: You can self-check out not just at supermarkets, but even libraries now. Plus every year, more retail is done online. Now as some places need less bodies so to speak, if you lose a job at such a place, and you're looking for more of the same kind of jobs wouldn't it obviously be harder? I was chatting with someone late last year, someone further in their career, and they told me that whatever one chooses to do, or whatever they are, from a sales associate to a computer programmer, that they should protect themselves by having attributes or skills that 1. aren't a dime a dozen and that 2. won't be done by a computer/robot in the foreseeable future. Been that way since pretty much the dawn of technological changes. Not a lot of demand for wagons any more - or slide rules - or typewriters... I think the underlying point is that technology gives us the ability to do more with the same input in terms of # of human-hours. This is a subject close to my heart, and one that I think the government has been aware of since at least the days of Ford - and I think they have been actively attempting to... massage?... the problem since. I'm sure I've gotten off on long rants about this here in the past - I won't put any of y'all through that again. Suffice to say - yes, of course technology, and the corresponding increase in efficiency (regarding production of goods and services) should push unemployment (Vonnegut's first novel, Player Piano, deals with this issue). That is hasn't, at least not hard, is a testament to our ability to (a) consume ever-larger quantities of things, and (b) create jobs that are worse than meaningless - jobs whose sole purpose seems to be the \*introduction\* of inefficiency to the production and distribution of stuff. I know, I know - stuck button and all that. Cheers.- Hide quoted text - - Show quoted text - Feel free to expound and expand - curious as to where your thought process is leading you on this topic

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Posted by David V. Loewe, Jr - 2010/02/10 02:16

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Posted by Thomas R. Kettler - 2010/02/10 02:16

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