

# lost in connection

THE IRONY OF DIGITAL CONNECTION CREATING REAL-WORLD DISCONNECTION



Beneath the trees, two realities unfold. Nature speaks but who's listening?  
Who are you connecting with?

**PLUGGED.  
SILENCE.  
DISCONNECTED.**

**UNPLUGGED.  
CONVERSATION.  
CONNECTED.**

Do we realize how often we miss out on the moment?



It's dinner time. Do you prioritize screen time or share a moment of laughter with your best friends?



Your brother is ranting to you. You're not even looking at him. Are you even listening to him or is the meme on your phone more important?



Someone is behind you. A friend? A stranger? A strangler? I guess you can't hear.



Are **you** even here?

# REFLECTION

After deciding on the main argument I wanted to represent in this project, I decided on the subject.

Considering my point about the overuse of technology, what better subject is there than Gen Z students. I see it in my daily life, from people around me to my own habits.

Plus, it has been one of my New Year's resolutions to reduce overstimulation through music and scrolling. I wanted to go on campus and see how many people were more in tune with their surroundings, whether interacting with friends or their environment. Ethical

considerations had to be considered here as I photographed some individuals; hence, I blurred the faces of those identities. The rest were either my roommates or people. I asked for a few of the shots I had in mind where their faces had to be shown, like the two twin brothers.

There were some faces I would've liked to keep, like the guy standing in the middle of campus for over 10 minutes, who had a concentrated look while looking at his phone.

His bold expression could've made the photo even more powerful. Otherwise, everyone was willing to participate

and help, especially after explaining my goals for my project. Most agreed with my argument of needing to be

more in the moment, which motivated me to do this project even more. I did not use any pre-existing images

for this project, which evidently was a good choice as I wanted to see how my argument applied to the present

day and generation. Overall, I learned a lot while photographing and realized how much beauty of everyday life we miss out on in terms of memories, safety, and connection just by looking at our phones too much.