[**General Fear of using Technology (Technophobia)**](https://youtu.be/Ctfd9RII4qc)

**Narrator:**

This vignette concerns psychological risks, interviewees will be discussing the general fear of using technology.

This risk perception is associated with a primal fear of technology and complex devices, technophobia. It manifests in observable behaviours associated with user paralysis fright and horror, in which the user demonstrates an unwillingness to learn anything ICT-related.

In this section, you'll hear a number of video vignettes extracted from interviews with older Australians.

We begin with Judy, age 79, who brings up the technophobia of those around her and how they struggle to survive without technology.

**Judy:**

As an older person, you can go one of two ways. You can take up technology right and go with it and learn with it, or else you can hide from it. And that people like that don't realize what they're missing out on in life. They crawl up in a little corner or in a little ball, and no i don't want to know about that. I have friends like that I can see it.

**Narrator:**

Our next interviewee Marilyn, age 78, speaks to how her husband struggles with technology and cannot deal with its use on a daily basis.

**Marilyn:**

Yeah well my husband won't touch it, he is even afraid of using the phone you know the mobile phone, and every time it rings he tries to answer it and he loses the person. So he just just throws up his hands in horror, at anything to do with computers.

**Narrator:**

Seeing how others have over time become bothered by having to learn new things Noel, age 64, discusses how this becomes a hindrance and forms a fear of technology later in life.

**Noel:**

And I see that in a a number of older people, that all of a sudden it becomes a point where I can't be bothered keeping up, I can't be bothered learning the new things, I just want to stay where I am, and I want to want to be simpler.

**Narrator:**

These vignettes were developed by the Shaping Connections Research Program at RMIT University’s School of Economics, Finance, and Marketing.

Our research develops insights on social inclusion and technology use among older Australians.

Please find additional information about these vignettes in the video description below.

You can get more information about the project by visiting www.shapingconnections.org. if you have any questions, comments, or feedback please use the contact us section of the website and we will get back to you.