

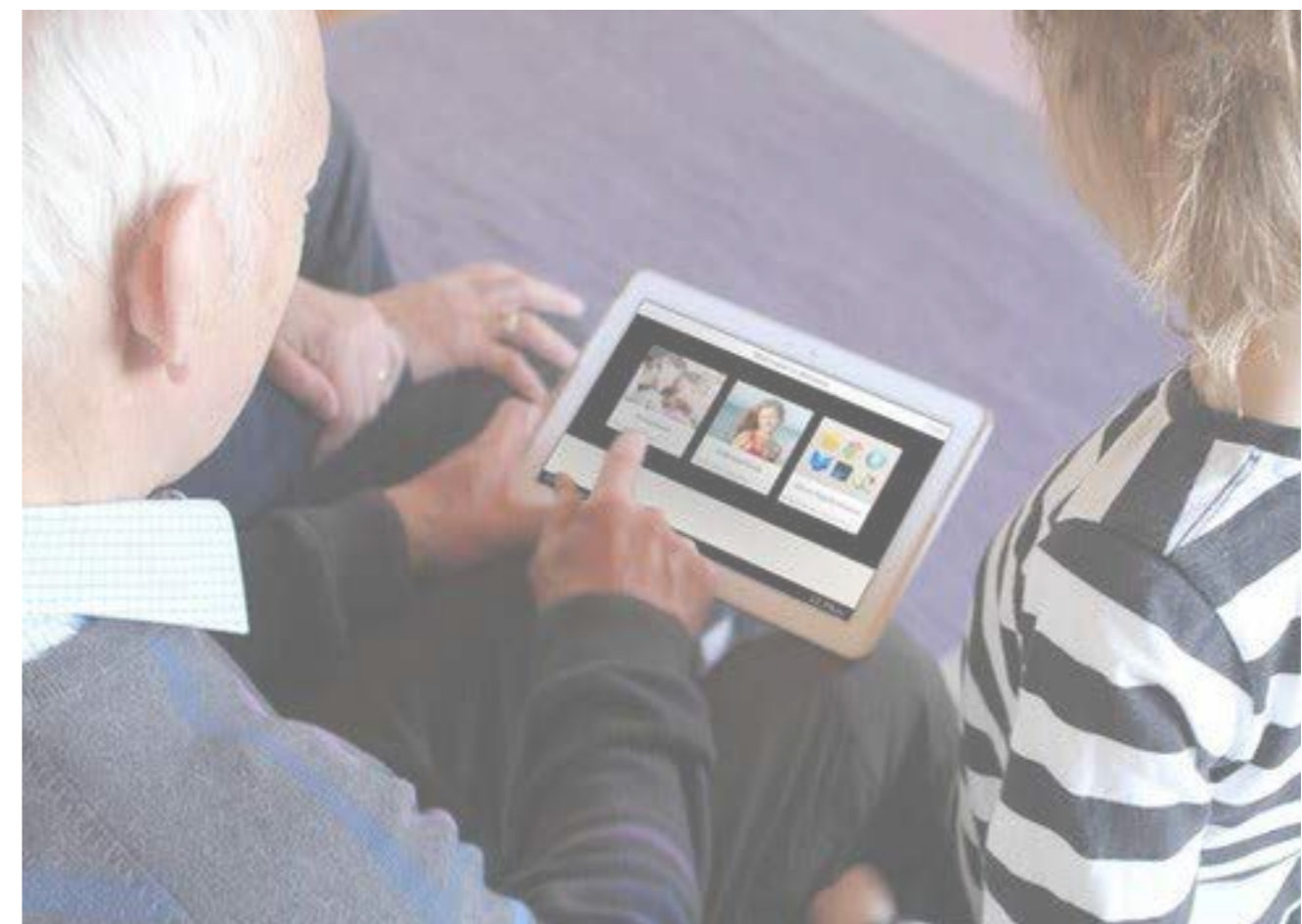
Com-Home



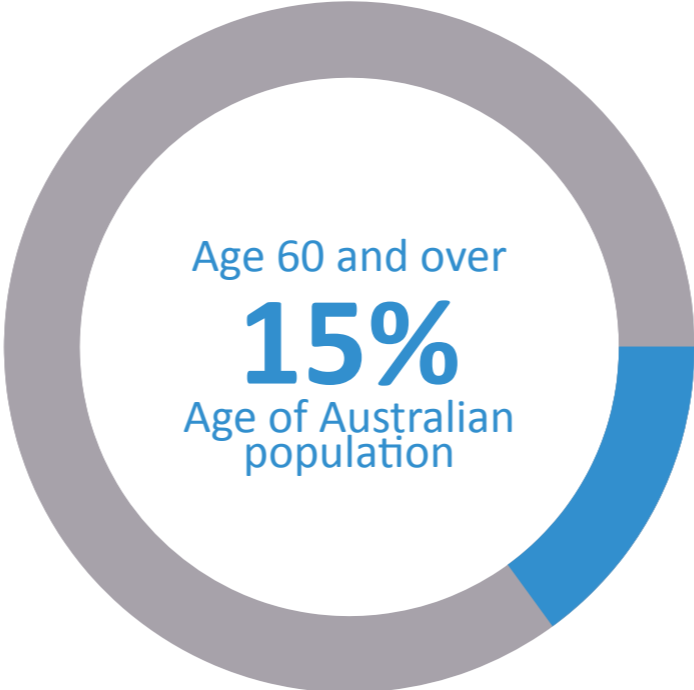
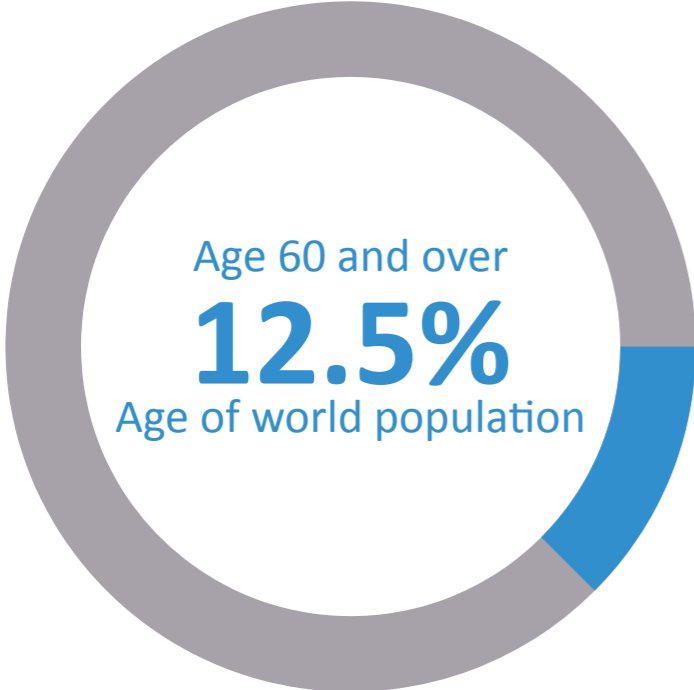
Introduction



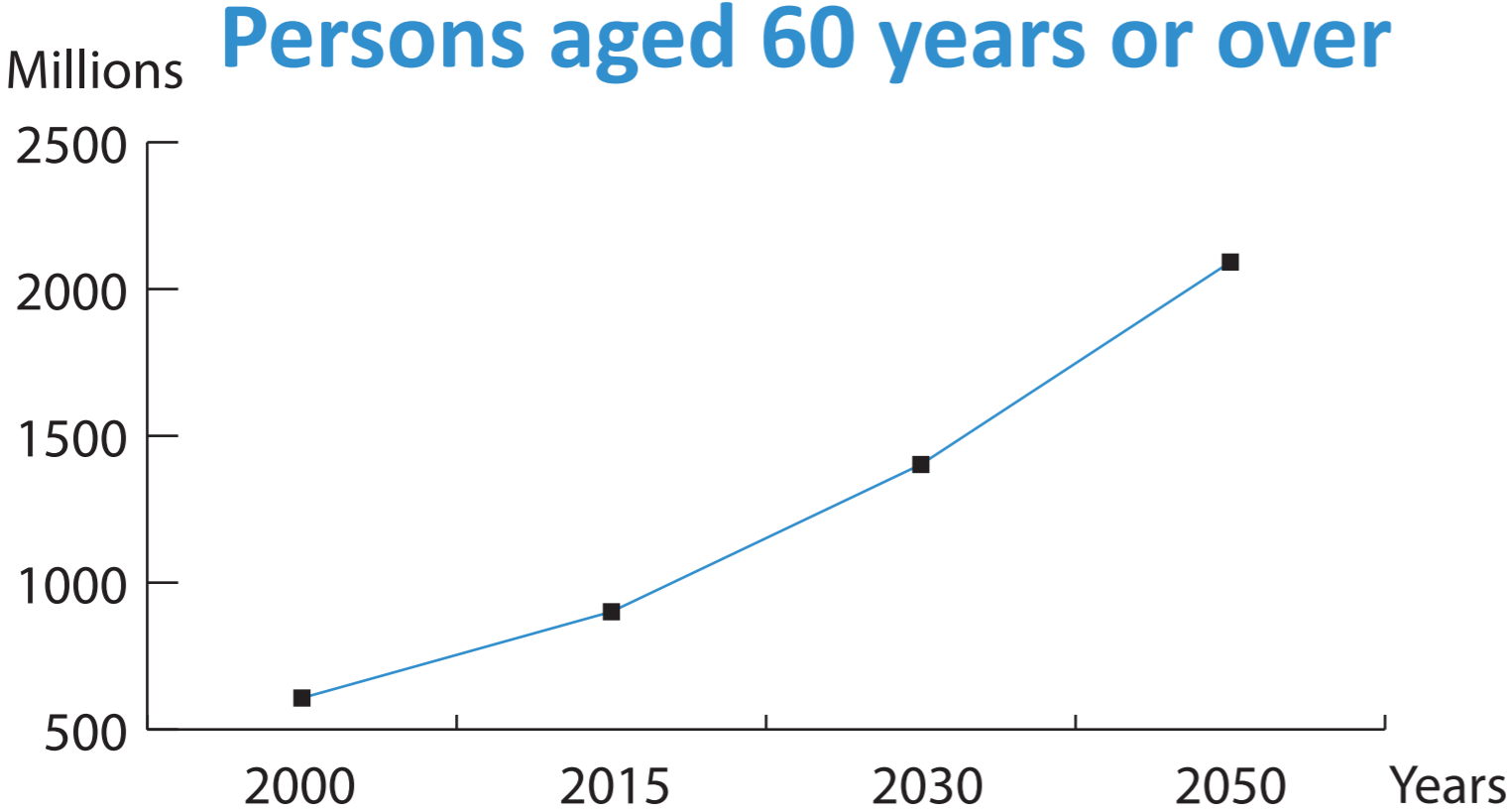
Nowadays, the civilization of our world has been developing to a new level, the quality of our getting better and better. However, the problem of social justice still exist. For example, the gap between wealthy and poverty is still very large, discrimination of different culture, age, race, disease and disability. The key to social justice is recognition and action to support the rights of all people. Fortunately, such social issues have been recognized by society and we are putting effort to make our society more justice. In this paper, elderly's social justice will be paid attention. The project aims to reduce the negative effect, social isolation, of aging by adapting the technology.



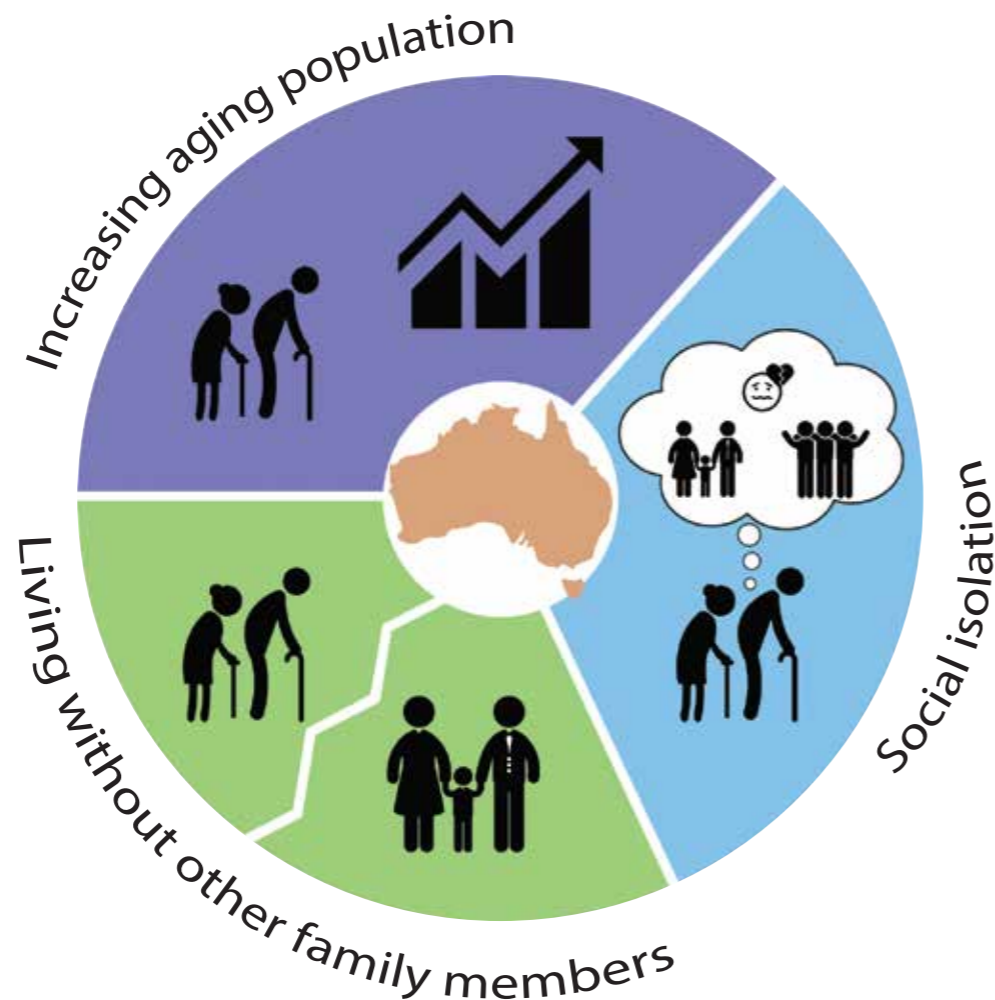
Demographic Research



The World Population Ageing 2015 predicts that the world population at age 60 or over will increase more than 50 percent in 25 years and they it also indicated that older population is growing faster in urban area than in rural area. It means that aging issue is actually happening the whole world. Australia, as a developed country, its population is facing the aging issue, as a result, the fertility is getting lower and the life expectancy is increasing. According Australian Bureau of Statistics (2015), people at age 65 and over occupied 15% of the whole population in Australia. Of these, 122,800 people (2.1% of the state's total population) were aged 85 years and over. In line with the continuing ageing of the Victorian population, the number of people aged 65 years and over grew by 18% between 2010 and 2015, compared with 8.7% growth in Victoria for the total population.



Background Research



It is obvious that the world is facing the aging issue. Furthermore, 'many older people lose their ability to live independently because of mobility, chronic pain, frailty or other mental or physical problems, and require some form of long-term care.' Besides, older people are more likely to experience events such as bereavement, a drop in socioeconomic status with retirement, or a disability. All of these factors can result in isolation, loss of independence, loneliness and psychological distress in older people.' (World Health Organization, 2016)



Empty nest syndrome
'Empty nest syndrome refers to the grief that many parents feel when their children move out of home.'
In western culture, it is very common for children to live independently. They will leave their parent when they find a job in another city, get married to their partners and live with their own family and children. Empty nesters, people use this term to describe parents who live without their children together. These parents may feel loneliness and grief. There is one method to cope this syndrome is to keep in touch with their children. Technological developments such as cell phones, text messaging, and the internet all allow for increased communication between parents and their children.

My vision

Thanks to the technology, our lives become faster and easier than before. However, as we focus on developing the technology, there is no doubt that we scarify the “out of date”, old generation. When we talk about technology, it seems hard for old people to understand and absorb this knowledge. It is hard for them to catch up with the speed of technology development. So what is the purpose for us to develop technology? The benefit of technology should not only be for the new generation, but for everyone, including the old generation. Old people had contributed to our society when they were young, it is reasonable for them to have the right to not left behind. Social media has a strong relation to the development of technology. It is the trendiest way for the new generation to communicate. As we all know about the difficulty for old adults to learn and control the new technology, but it is very easy for young people to use new technology. These two generations born and live in two different lifestyles. The technology makes the generation become bigger and old people become more isolated.

BBC News reporter Wakefield (2015) indicated that 77% of older people in U.S would need someone to help them through the process of setting up a new device.

My idea is to let old people who are social isolated to get pleasure from social media, through getting them involve into social media world.



DEFINING GENERATIONS		
HOW I PREFER TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOU...		
Generation	Age	You Prefer...
Traditionalist	60	Let's have a conversation
Boomer	50	Call me on my cell
X'er	35	Send me an e-mail
Y'er	30	Text me
Millenial	25	Facebook/ Tweet to me

(Savitz, 2012)



Case study



Smart home

"Smart Home" is the term commonly used to define a residence that has appliances, lighting, heating, air conditioning, TVs, computers, entertainment audio & video systems, security, and camera systems that are capable of communicating with one another and can be controlled remotely by a time schedule, from any room in the home, as well as remotely from any location in the world by phone or internet.' Smart home usa (2016)



Oomi – Smart Home

Smart home technology is getting common nowadays. Such products have been released to the market and developed more advance.

As you see in this image, Oomi is a product that for house users to control your home appliances like the lighting, TV, home security camera and air conditioner.



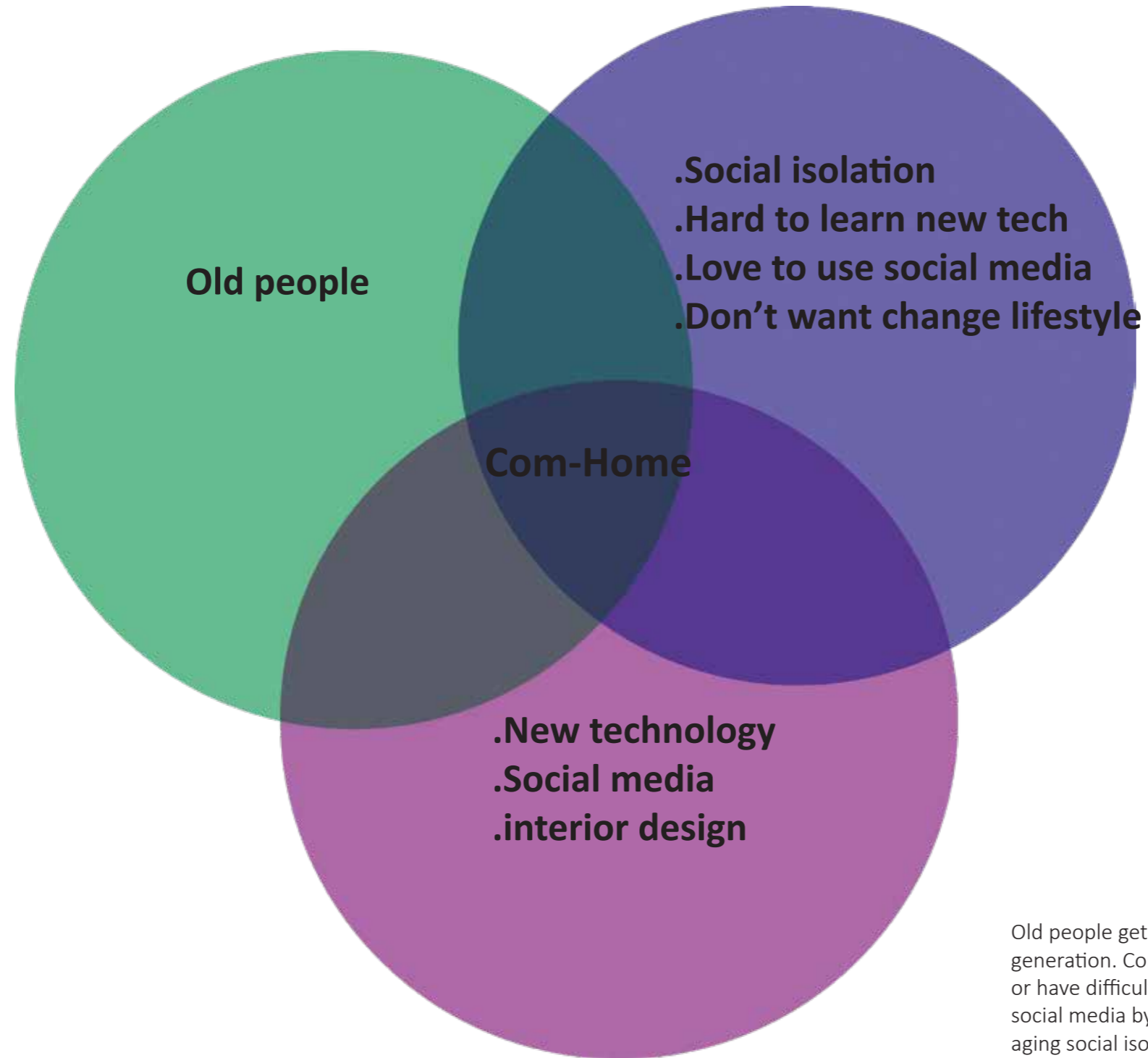
Com-Home

communicate at home

Connecting old people with young people by using technology.

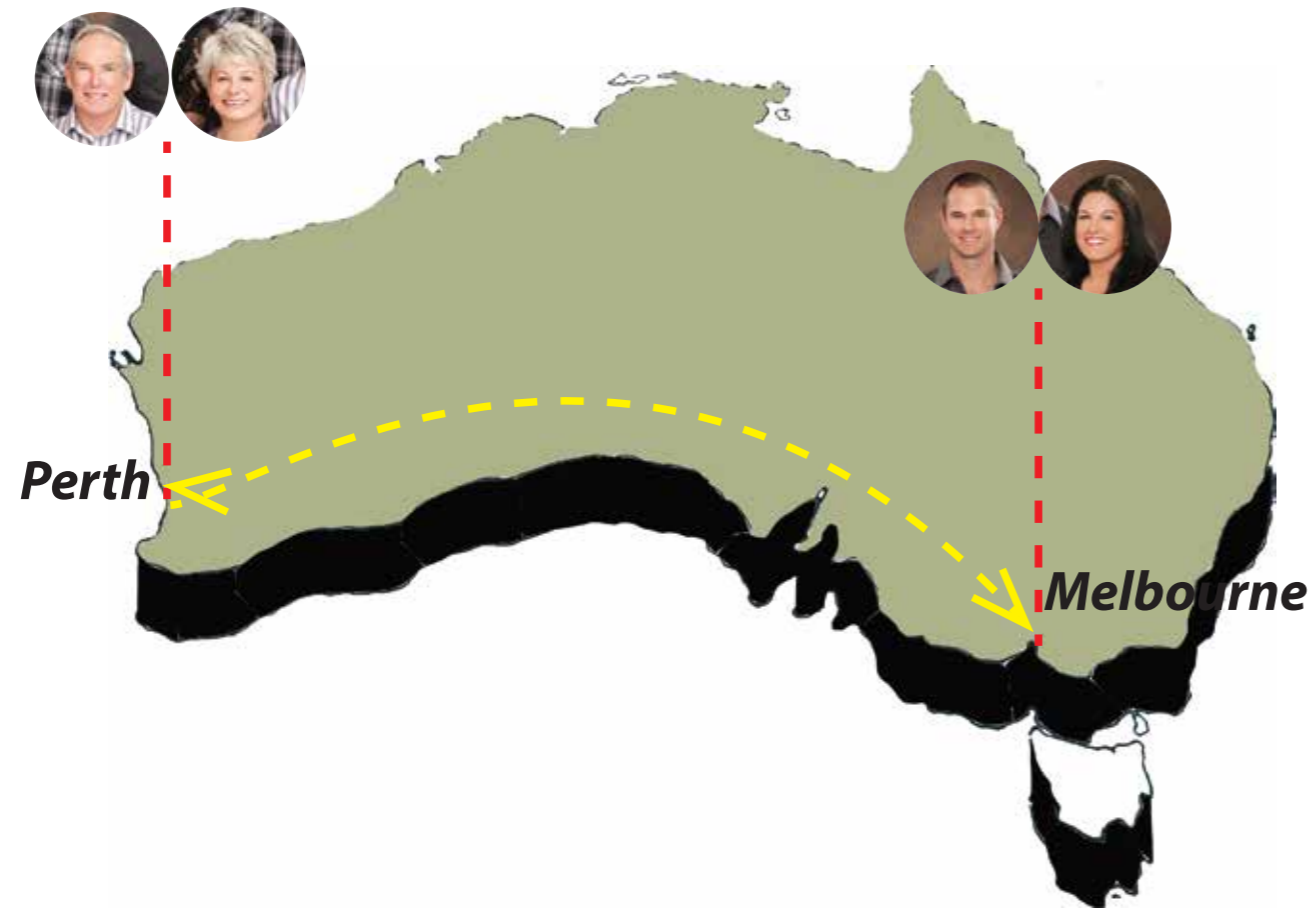
Old people should be kept connecting with this society.

Technology Should not be the gap between young and old

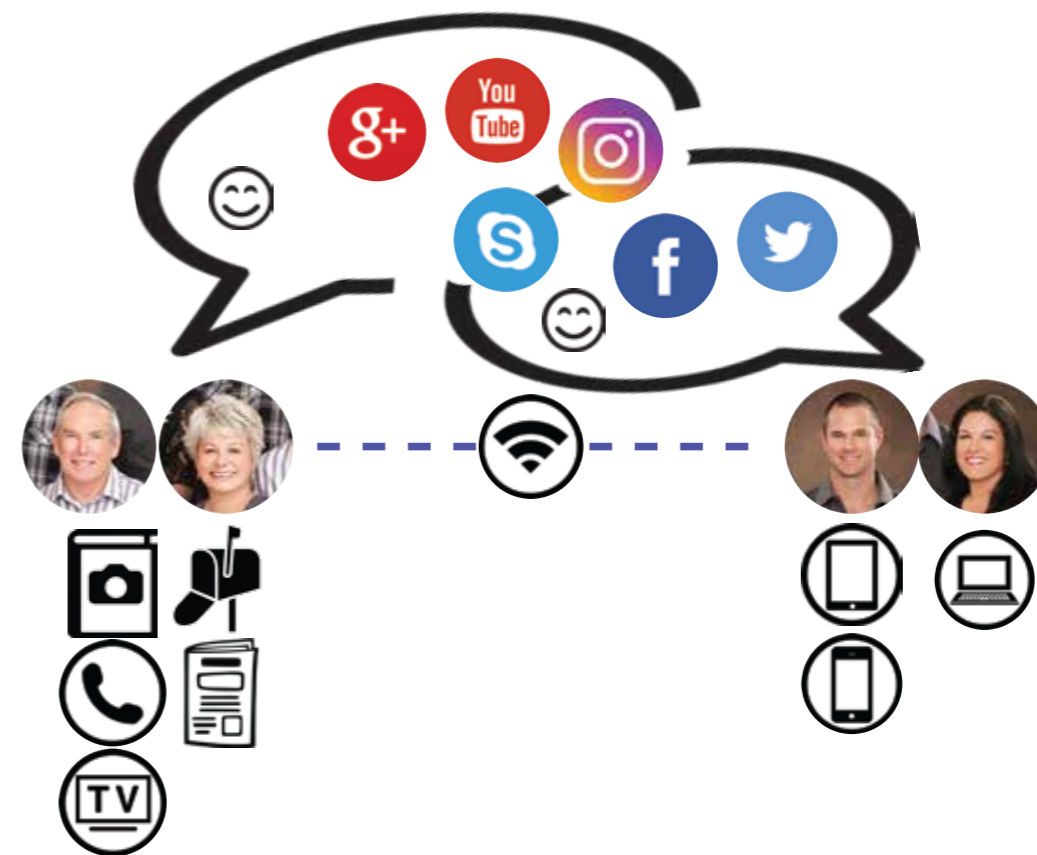


Old people get social isolated easier than young and new generation. Com-home project help old people who do not know or have difficulties at learning social media get the pleasure from social media by deploying, redesigning their home interior, so that aging social isolation can be reduced.

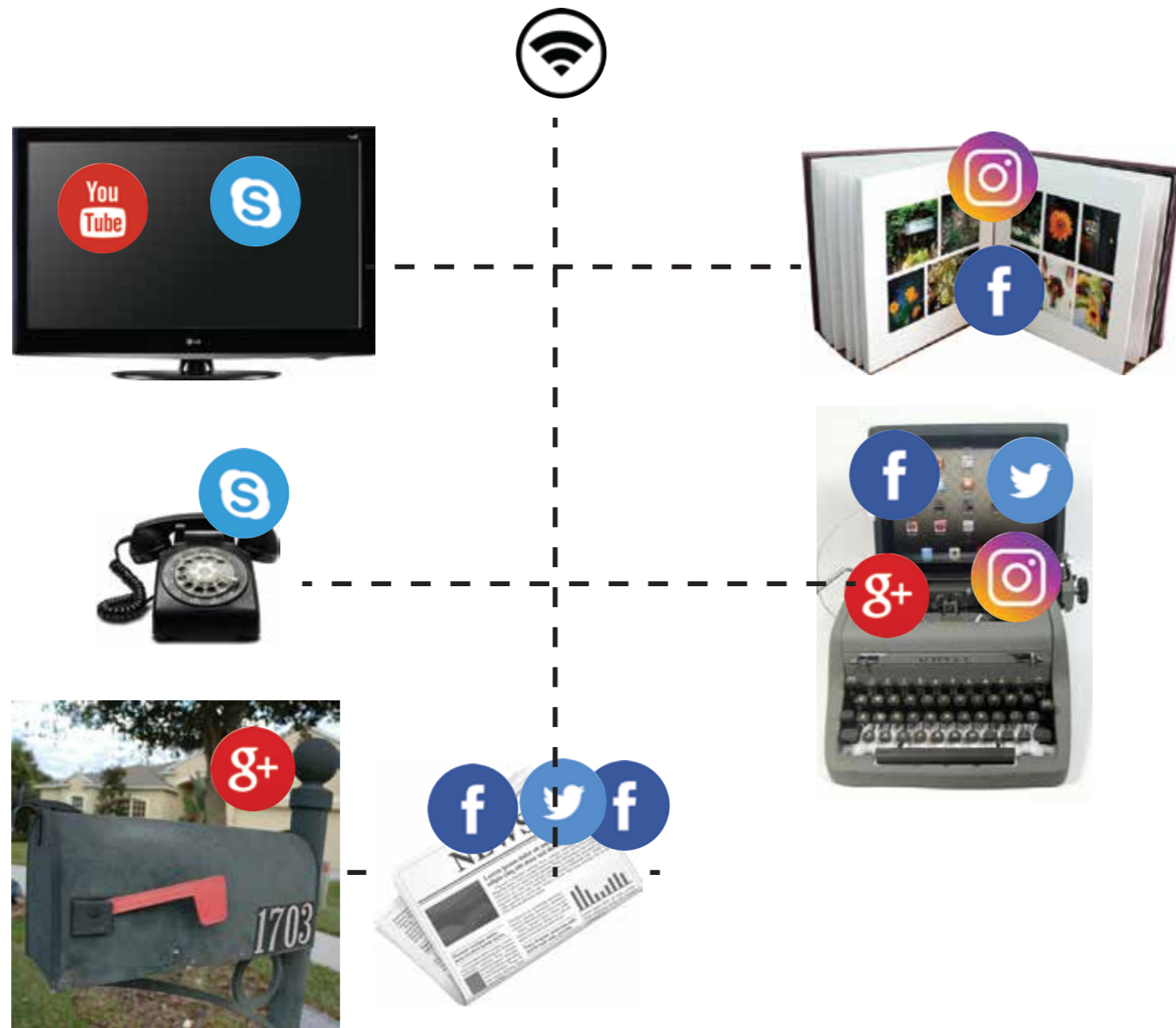
Scenario



Peter: lives in Perth, his son, Mark got a job in Melbourne. Mark got married and settled in Melbourne. Peter and his wife only meet their son once a year. They want to communicate every day but Peter and his wife are difficult to learn how to use new technology like social media and computer.



Process



The old people have already get used to their lifestyle, however, it is hard for them to change it immediately. While the new generation change their lifestyle and the way of communicating because of the technology. It is very common for young people to use social media and young people are the major user group to use it.

In order to let old people to get pleasure from social media there are lots of way for them to use social. Technology learning course is one of it. However, not all old people are willing to or able to go to learning course.

Com-Home is a great idea to apply technology to home appliances but not changing old people lifestyle or push them to learn how to

use new devices. All they need to do is use the appliances with new and functions.

For example, old people can use the home phone and TV to have a video live chat with their friends or their children. Firstly, they call their friends by telephone. Once their friend pick up the call, the device that install in telephone will automatically connect to the TV and the camera. Users just use their remote controller adjust to the 'live chat' channel, so that they can have a live chat with other.

Old people have the habit of reading on physical book, mail and Newspaper. We can design a mailbox with new function. A suitable printer with wireless internet will be mounted in the

mailbox. The old people, users', social media and email account connect to the printer. Thus, the mailbox will printer will print out 'Facebook' newspaper daily and print the email once their email account receive a new email.

Beside those examples, other appliances can also be design in the same way. For instance, typing machine can be the input device to reply their Facebook comment, physical photo album combine the scanner can be used as a physical Facebook or Instagram Applications to upload photo and so on.

Summary



This idea adapts the inclusive design for a specific group of people. Furthermore, in this group of people, there are also lots of individual situation. We can design new idea by communicating with the users, so that we can design things more suitable to the users. Participatory design is also used in this idea. When we talk about social media is usually for young people who are born in last decade, however, technology should be the invention for all age group. This idea recode the stereotype notion of social media in our mind, old people should get the pleasure from social media, but should not be left behind without knowing new technology.

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