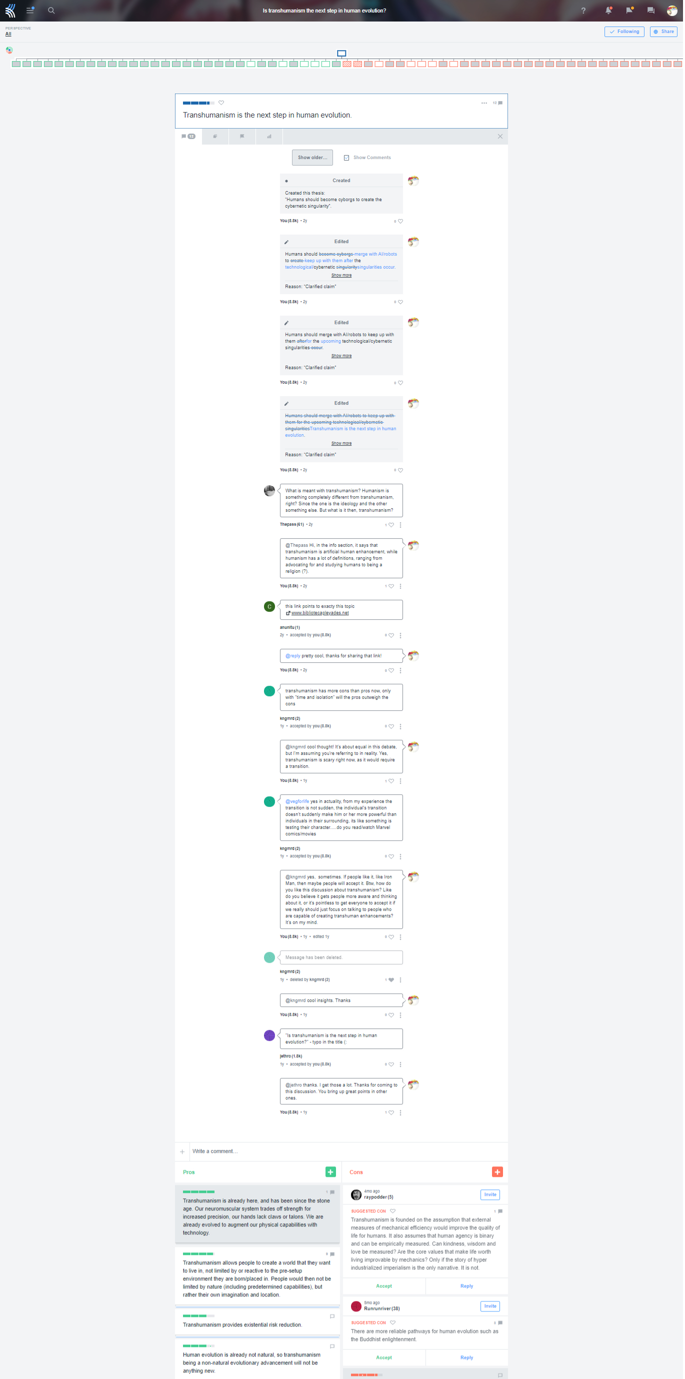

Is transhumanism the next step in human evolution?

Transhumanism is the next step in human evolution.

Created

Created this thesis:
"Humans should become cyborgs to create the cybernetic singularity".

You (8.8k) • 2y 0

Edited

Humans should ~~become cyborgs~~ merge with AI/robots to ~~create~~ keep up with them after the technological/cybernetic ~~singularity~~singularities occur.

Show more

Reason: "Clarified claim"

You (8.8k) • 2y 0

Edited

Humans should merge with AI/robots to keep up with them ~~after~~for the upcoming technological/cybernetic singularities ~~occur~~.

Show more

Reason: "Clarified claim"

You (8.8k) • 2y 0

Edited

~~Humans should merge with AI/robots to keep up with them for the upcoming technological/cybernetic singularities~~Transhumanism is the next step in human evolution.

Show more

Reason: "Clarified claim"

You (8.8k) • 2y 0

What is meant with transhumanism? Humanism is something completely different from transhumanism, right? Since the one is the ideology and the other something else. But what is it then, transhumanism?

Thepass (61) • 2y 1

@Thepass Hi, in the info section, it says that transhumanism is artificial human enhancement, while humanism has a lot of definitions, ranging from advocating for and studying humans to being a religion (?).

You (8.8k) • 2y 1

this link points to exacty this topic
www.bibliotecapleyades.net

anunitu (1)
2y • accepted by you (8.8k) 0

@reply pretty cool, thanks for sharing that link!

You (8.8k) • 2y 0

transhumanism has more cons than pros now, only with "time and isolation" will the pros outweigh the cons

kngmrd (2)
1y • accepted by you (8.8k) 0

@kngmrd cool thought! It's about equal in this debate, but I'm assuming you're referring to in reality. Yes, transhumanism is scary right now, as it would require a transition.

You (8.8k) • 1y 1

@vegforlife yes in actuality, from my experience the transition is not sudden, the individual's transition doesn't suddenly make him or her more powerful than individuals in their surrounding, its like something is testing their character.....do you read/watch Marvel comics/movies

kngmrd (2)
1y • accepted by you (8.8k) 0

@kngmrd yes, sometimes. If people like it, like Iron Man, then maybe people will accept it. Btw, how do you like this discussion about transhumanism? Like do you believe it gets people more aware and thinking about it, or it's pointless to get everyone to accept it if we really should just focus on talking to people who are capable of creating transhuman enhancements? It's on my mind.

You (8.8k) • 1y • edited 1y 0

Message has been deleted.

kngmrd (2)
1y • deleted by kngmrd (2) 1

@kngmrd cool insights. Thanks

You (8.8k) • 1y 0

"Is transhumanism is the next step in human evolution?" - typo in the title (:

jethro (1.8k)
1y • accepted by you (8.8k) 0

@jethro thanks. I get those a lot. Thanks for coming to this discussion. You bring up great points in other ones.

You (8.8k) • 1y 1

Pros

1

Transhumanism is already here, and has been since the stone age. Our neuromuscular system trades off strength for increased precision, our hands lack claws or talons. We are already evolved to augment our physical capabilities with technology.

9

Transhumanism allows people to create a world that they want to live in, not limited by or reactive to the pre-setup environment they are born/placed in. People would then not be limited by nature (including predetermined capabilities), but rather their own imagination and location.

Transhumanism provides existential risk reduction.

Human evolution is already not natural, so transhumanism being a non-natural evolutionary advancement will not be anything new.

Cons

4mo ago
raypodder (5)

SUGGESTED CON 1

Transhumanism is founded on the assumption that external measures of mechanical efficiency would improve the quality of life for humans. It also assumes that human agency is binary and can be empirically measured. Can kindness, wisdom and love be measured? Are the core values that make life worth living improvable by mechanics? Only if the story of hyper industrialized imperialism is the only narrative. It is not.

5mo ago
Runrunriver (38)

SUGGESTED CON 3

There are more reliable pathways for human evolution such as the Buddhist enlightenment.

Transhumanism helps to prevent existential risk of AI takeover through existential risk reduction.

7

This next step is inevitable, so we should proceed with a method to have control over the process.

Transhumanism could speed up human evolution, which provides multiple benefits.

People would have greater freedom than without it.

Transhumanism would make life easier.

1

Any change of state is considered evolution and it is neither objectively good or bad, it can only be regarding to an objective such as survival. Transhumanism is the most likely future for humanity. Therefore it is most likely the next step in human evolution, because humans constantly change their state and are heading in the direction with their changes towards it.

Transhumanism may reduce our demands on the environment.

9

To start this process, people should be taught deep learning and biology to be skilled workers for collaboratives such as the BRAIN Initiative, not the efforts seen now (with people playing video games and more).

4

Over half of the human population lives in an urban environment (two-thirds forecast by 2050) -- transhumanism is simply natural evolution in kind.

We put pacemakers in our hearts, artificial hips in our legs, and eventually turn to robotic implants or replacements.

Manipulating our rate and direction of change is more efficient than being subject to a process which incorporates random chance to effect change (like evolution). Humans constantly look for ways to be more efficient, therefore manipulating how we evolve, in this case using technology, is a logically sound decision.

1

There is no doubt that one day we will be superseded buy something more intelligent than ourselves. It's just evolution continuing. Obviously , anyone observing the world can see that we are so limited as humans. We still kill each other for land, religion or material things. We focus subconsciously on the need to reproduce and how to get a mate One day we will create something that is beyond that. Humans can be the fathers of the next generation of intelligent beings. That is our place.

2

With the advancement of AI, we will become less capable than a machine. Thus, the only way to keep up is to enhance our own brains.

7

In the past, major, unnatural (i.e. non-existing and atypical then), non-biological changes (like developing language, finding fire, etc.) have occurred to allow a species to survive through time and shaped our evolution. Transhumanism may be another one of those non-biological steps that will allow us to evolve.

1

Humans are well-adapted to their environment, and since the environment's is ample and not going to change soon, humans won't evolve. Thus, the alternative (if we want to keep evolving) is through artificial means, as it lets us 'do the impossible'.

1

Humanity is already heading in this direction and it will come to being no matter what. In theory, one could claim we are cyborgs as glued to our phones as we are. It is better to try to shape it and discuss it, instead of letting someone or something do that for us.

1

Technology, simultaneously connecting and separating us, can lead to a breaking point (increased suicide rates is already a call for help). Naturally, no matter how much humans transcend our roots (through technological substitutions), our basic needs for connection won't go away anytime soon. For now, they still need to be met.

3

Transhumanism will help humans will win in the game of evolution, as it allows us to exist across the universe, which is better to survival than species that can only survive in a micro ecological niche (e.g. flightless dung beetle).

1

Transhumanism allows for unexpected activity and performance or ability. Yes, a bit like ordinary superheroes.

Transhumanism can represent a new life for the disabled. You be you, I be me. If someone is comfortable being a cyborg to live better, be autonomous and have a healthy lifestyle, the choice should be his.

Humans will eventually evolve into machines.

Humans can take over the decisionmaking that previously fell onto nature. With this step, people will be less dependent on external factors and instead more independent.

Transhuman adaptions, like becoming a cyborg, would help people do better at their jobs.

17

If people gain better health, higher IQ, and overall better quality of life (such as with CRISPR), then Kevin Warwick's concern of superior cyborgs deciding the fate of the unenhanced becomes a concern at the voting booth.

1

A spy profession is a good example, as they need a sharp eye out and keen ear open to their surroundings. Placing a camera in a spy's head would assist with that.

7

As we develop new technology, we eventually find a way to incorporate it into our bodies or minds to make them transhuman. This trend already started long ago and will not stop until we achieve the capability altogether in reality.

Humans should merge with AI/robots to keep up with them for the upcoming technological/cybernetic singularities.

Transhumanism might have unforeseen dangers, because it has never been accomplished on a mass scale.

Transhumanism is the next step in evolution of wealthy humans. Poor humans will not benefit from it.

2

Transhumanism comes at a cost (financial, societal, and other consequences) that is too difficult to or not be worth investing in.

7

Transhumanism will be the next step for some, but not all people. Because people recognize the value of humans, humans may remain present alongside transhumans, evolving with, instead of disappearing because of them.

2

Transhumans have limits in competing with complete automatons and may not be capable enough to survive in the technological singularity, as that's when the progression of automation surpasses humans (so transhumans, being part human, would be below automation, but above humans, in keeping up).

6

Transhumanism would be the end of biological evolution, as it would rely on design as opposed to natural selection of mutated traits.

People and cultures may be against change, and transhumanism is a large one.

1

Many approaches to transhumanism aren't a step in evolution but a replacement for it.

Human interaction partially gets lost in transhumanism, where people are not interacting with "humans" anymore, but humans + something else.

6

Artificial Intelligence may spawn a new form of species from the connectivity of humans (a.k.a. transhumanism), instead of humans naturally evolving into anything much more complex than they are today

3

Since we don't know enough about the human body to recreate it entirely, body parts may be missing parts to a transhuman body and we would have to those evolve again just to get back to where it is now, starting the evolutionary process from scratch for that part.

Transhumanism has the potential to rob man of some of the essential human experiences; such as growth through struggle and the sense of individuality by knowing ones personal strengths and weaknesses.

22

Transhumanism appears, at least, to presuppose that an entity can become something other than what it is. It, in other words, presupposes that the universe is contingent with respect to human nature, i.e., that it can change; either randomly (via evolution) or by force of human "doing" (a kind of bootstrapping model). Consequently, transhumanism presupposes a metaphysics, which requires a defense. But there is no defense presented here. (For a contrasting worldview see: en.wikipedia.org)

Unclear
"was removed without explanation, changes, or notice"

21

Transhumanism is by definition beyond human, therefore it cannot belong to any human context. Instead of being another step in human evolution, transhumanism is a step in an artificial, non-human one.

6

Transhumanism will make human beings even less capable and intelligent, eventually leading to the human elements being eliminated entirely as superfluous to the mechanism.

Unsupported

4

Artificial superintelligence (ASI) could eliminate the human race before transhumanism can take hold.

Human evolution is taking a "u-turn". Let people live and die naturally. We have created a population havoc by strengthening our health care systems. When every intelligent being is surrounded by an intelligent being the outcome is unknown.

1

Not every type of transhuman change impacts evolution. The only form of transhumanism that will affect evolution is genetic manipulation. All other forms of enhancement are technological (a.k.a. electrical and digital) improvements that do not impact on the gene pool of the population.

18

One needs to uphold variables (like evolution) for consciouses (by figuring out how it works). Leading to that by suppression, transhumanism is a possibility for upholding the variables of secondary needs for regrowth to further evolution (related to IoT, IoT-AI personalized communication, adaptive development of W3C/HTML5, etc., and even 6th-level programming of structured mega-citizenship of consiouses (TL;DR) about reverse engineering and uphold of osmosis, possibly by 2022-2040).

2

Transhumanism implies loss in the natural equilibrium due to artificial changes in humanity (which is an important actor in the system ~ as effects in nature show, i.e. climate change). An option is to include nature in changes made to a whole system (as a sort of transnature), to allow for the collective evolution and minimization of potential risks of the imbalance.

2

The technology that would go into the human body would most likely be developed from corporations or governments. Applying this technology en masse would allow for big data collection which can be used for malicious purpose and against ones own interests. Taking it to the extreme one could argue that it would create an orwellian surveillance state.

6

Rarely are evolutionary changes self-induced. Transhumanism shows more signs of an evolutionary stage's mental innovation, visible in how a species uses corrective medicine. In the case of transhumanism, that would be things like artificial body parts, extended longevity, etc.

Transumanism may cause people to live unnaturally, and excessively long. This can have massively negative effects.

1

No, technology is a trend, as everything it will pass in the long term of the planet earth.

1

Transhumanism could be used by governments to control you and/or your mind. Even just by reading your thoughts this could threat everyone who is against a certain system or leader.

Transhumanism is the justification of eugenics because it is the creation of a superior breed of humans.

Those who don't conform would be drastically inferior, both intellectually and physically to those that did. This would likely cause a rift in society. The transhumans would look down upon the humans as the humans do primates. They would be obsolete, and useless to society.

3

We think of the future with the information we have on the present, a posteriori we see that many unforeseen circumstances shaped the world in a different way. Because we can foresee these technologies, the future will probably be shaped by something else, something unknown that we will not know how to handle.

Transhumanism will be (initially) available only to the rich, thus expanding the gap between rich and poor. Together with diminishing of the percieved "humanity" of transhumans it will probably lead to war.

3

Transhumanism could reverse evolution. Artificial enhancement (that does not affect the DNA) of people who are, according to their DNA, the least fit, could ensure their survival and procreation (with bad DNA), thus reversing evolution.

Computer and neuroscience technology advanced enough to create humans substantially more advanced than those of today would probably cause an intelligence explosion before we have the time to alter humanity much. Thus, the next step is the Singularity, and Transhumanism would have to wait to follow that if at all.

Physiologically, the human body may reject surgically placed biomechatronic body parts.

2

People have a stigma against eugenics.

Transhumanism's not needed as long as people know how to work with automation to accomplish tasks.

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