Get Involved

Community is where change begins. Working with others to improve our world starts the conversations and creativity we need. Shared effort becomes positivity and a communal drive towards a shared prosperity. Together we are best.

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Good Talks

The mess we are in

It is undeniable that humanity is facing the biggest challenges of our lives. Our political and media discourse have devolved, wealth inequality is at all time highs, our representatives are in cahoots with the oligarchs, and it feels like we are unheard. And now Ai is here…

Take a deep breath and listen to these good talks about how we got into this mess and ideas for how we can create something better.

Tyranny of Merit

Michael Sandel

We think of merit as a good thing, you want a qualified doctor and pilot. So how can merit be a form of tyranny? We live in an age of winners and losers - and even if our meritocratic ideals existed - it would still be so. The dark side is that success breeds hubris among the winners who gather money and power. They look down on others.

To find our way out requires we define a new sense for the common good and decency. That we reorient our economy from a focus on consumerism to one of producers and the dignity of work, one that enables all to contribute to our shared destiny - contributive justice.

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Liberal Democracy

Daron Acemoglu

Liberal democracy flourished when it pursued its core promises for a shared prosperity, democratic governance, and the free pursuit of knowledge. But liberalism never adjusted to being the establishment. Nor did it deal with the economic and social disruptions that it wrought. Worse, in the postindustrial economy, liberalism turned its back on its core promises. As a segment of educated elites became politically dominant and separated from the rest of society, they sowed the seeds of widespread inequality by intensifying efforts to reshape mass culture and values. The failings brought us Trump.

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Friends Chatting

Michael & Daron

Sandel & Acemoglu sit down to talk and interview each other. These two friends, and their ideas, are better together, like all of us. The two talks here are informal, yet dive deep into the fundamental causes for society's current malaise.

Not only are their combined insights into the causes revealing, their ideas for how to better ourselves, our society, our politics, and our economy - they are better together too. Watch their individual content first, then see the synergy of these two in action.

Acemoglu-Sandel

Sandel-Acemoglu

Nobel Prize Talks in Economics '24

Daron Acemoglu shows how economic models are missing important pieces by treating all technology and automation the same, and connects it to inequality.

Simon Johnson discusses colonialism settler death rates, how it determined the kind of institutions built, and how industrialization locked in the global haves and have nots.

James Robinson adds color through stories about the rule of law and societal norms using examples from Confucius, Colombia, Africa, and more.

paper

video

Sherry Turkle

If social media came for our attention, artificial intelligence is now coming for our attachment. Chatbots that speak to us in our languages and voice offer themselves as best friends, lovers, and psychotherapists - yet they can only offer us the mere performance of intimacy, empathy, and love. We begin to think that pretend empathy is empathy enough, that it is easier than the real thing. We redefine human capacities for care, solitude, and intimacy in terms of what chat offers.

Sherry Turkle calls the new culture of chatbots "artificial intimacy", our new "AI". This most dangerous potential for Ai is the least discussed.

book

video

Opus 23

AI does to you what...
American cheese did to food

This one-hit wonder is a work of art and the best video about what Ai is. Opus 23 introduces Concept Fission, how technology breaks apart ideas in the mind and society. Those born on either side of change have different context for interpreting new tools.

This video helps contextualize Ai. Our human history is full of examples, yet Ai represents something more. You will be reminded of all the technology and habits we take for granted, gaining insight into why different groups react differently - as they do - to change.

video

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