Why Albania is the best country in the world

Now I was told I had to make a speech on my passion. But the truth is most of my passions are pretty generic. So I decided to do my presentation on something a little less generic. Now when I ask you what have been the greatest empires to have ever exited, some may say Rome others Mongolia or Persia but you would all be wrong. Albania is the greatest country to ever exist and will ever exist. Now some of you may not know anything about the great nation of Albania. Albania is a nation that is 1/332nd the size of Canada but I can guarantee you by the end you will agree that it is exponentially greater than the Canadian state. To understand Albania you must understand its history, the great Albanian people have existed for centuries but the real beginning of the Albanian state began in 1444 with the League of Lezhe created by the great warrior Skanderbeg. Now you are probably thinking cool great some warrior but Skanderbeg was not some warrior, Skanderbeg was unique. After uniting Albania he took less than 10,000 men with him and walked into ottoman land to reclaim Albanian land. At the time the Ottomans sent over 100,000 men to fight Skanderbeg’s 10,000 men but was utterly destroyed, the smallest European nation at the time took on the largest military nation west of China and had a decisive victory. Skanderbeg at the age of 62 would walk on to the battlefield shirtless, with his full chalk white beard and take hundreds of the best trained and equipped soldiers of the century. In one battle Skanderbeg and his army of 8,000 troops defeated an ottoman army of 80,000.

**Why voting is destroying the youth**

Something I am very passionate about is politics, from a young age I have always been interested in political issues and have attempted to be informed. Throughout our youths we are told of our civic duty to vote

**Robotics**

* So im going to talk about experience in robotics
* So some of my fondest memories are from my team on my schools robotics team
* Now in our school we used vex robotics and every year vex comes out with a different competition and we have to design, build and compete those robots in increasing levels of difficult from regionals to provincials and eventually worlds
* I joined two years ago when I was in grade 10 and have worked ever since as programmer and a builder

**Poverty**

Hello guys my name is Owen and today I will be talking about an issue which is very important to me and one that I am very passionate about. That topic is poverty. Today I would like to hone in on a very specific problem and that is urban poverty and economic struggle. Now often people dismiss poverty as some problem in some foreign, developing nation, but poverty is an issue that affects so many people and often as privileged individuals we are blind to such struggles. Currently in Toronto 1 in 4 children are living under poverty, now I do not like statistics much because I feel they really dehumanise the problem but in this case I feel that it is helpful to really represent this issue. So look to your left, look to your right… yeah ok I lied those people are probably not living in poverty. This is due to many different factors but there is one in particular. So I have a question for you guys over the last 20 years can anyone guess how much median wages have increased accounting for inflation.(Answer 2.26%). Even though median wages have stagnated, housing prices have increased by 74%. That means even though people are making the same amount of money, their mortgages are becoming more expensive. This means that people can no longer afford homes and are forced to move into areas with cheaper housing. What this translates to is that low income earners are being forced into areas with other low income earners, a sort of economic ghetto. What this creates is something called the poverty cycle, where generations of people are stuck in this cycle of poverty because they lack the same advantages that more affluent students would receive. This cycle of poverty inevitably forces people to an end, this cycle of poverty in which all of their friends and family are stuck in forces people to take extraordinary methods to attempt to break this cycle. That brings up a very important point and that is the total lack of empathy for those living in poverty. Often when we are taught about poverty we are told that low income earners do not commit crime that they are somehow prefect individuals but this is not the case. Slavoj Zizek the Slovenian philosopher has a great point on this, one thing that many people do not understand is that poverty is an ugly face.Now probably the biggest issue that I see with solving this problem is the complete lack of political drive. In nations like China despite their rapid population growth they’ve managed to drop their unemployment rate below even the wealthiest nations, China in fact has a nearly 2% lower unemployment rate then Canada. The truth is that in our modern political climate it has been decided that poverty is not an issue, it has been decided that those who live in abhorrent conditions do not deserve to live an acceptable life and I personally think that is disgusting. Thank You.