**Topic:** Ethics of Terraforming Mars

**Thesis:** In this paper I will argue that although there are significant potential benefits in mankind terraforming Mars, the risks to humanity, the impact on the Mars ecosystem, and the costs associated with such a venture render the pursuit of terraforming unethical.

**Section 1:** The risks to humanity in terraforming Mars are significant and render the pursuit of such action unethical.

* We shouldn’t send humans to die off of Earth
  + Counter-point: We have done this for a long time, we traveled the world and explorers died away from their home societies
    - Counter-Counter-Point: Leaving your coastline is different than leaving the planet.
* Humans should not be separated from society for extended periods of time

**Section 2:** It is wrong to convert the ecosystem of another planet to one that is hospitable to humans.

* We don’t have a right to change another planet’s ecosystem and atmosphere
* We can’t certainly know if there would be negative effects on other life on the planet
* It’s wrong for humans to seek to live beyond the Earth

**Section 3:** The costs associated with terraforming Mars would be more effectively used to support human life on Mars

* The costs of terraforming Mars would be in the trillion dollar range
* Those dollars can be spent on eradicating hunger, eliminating poverty, and universal education and healthcare

**Section 4:** While there benefits of terraforming Mars do exist, they are insufficient to overcome the negative effects.

* Human has limited resources, and we need to expand our reach beyond Earth
* Humanity is expansionary by its nature and if we don’t look beyond Earth, we will only foment further war
* **Counter-Point:** New worlds will only open up new forums for combat and competition

**Conclusion**