

**Ethics and GMO's - Maneesh Wijewardhana****Maneesh Kandage Wijewardhana posted Jan 21, 2021 6:47 PM**

GMO stands for genetically modified organism which means any organism whose DNA has been modified using genetic engineering technology. This process is very prominent in the food industry especially with crops to increase growth, nutritional content, sustainability, pest resistance, and ease of farming. As you may see, GMO's provide a vast set of advantages but not without some disadvantages. Some GMO's are known to cause allergic reactions because they contain foreign genes. Another would be the concern of progressing cancers. Since cancer is caused by DNA mutations, people are concerned that eating foods with modified genes may affect your DNA. All in all, most foods in the local supermarket contain GMO ingredients as it is more cost-effective for farmers which makes them cheaper for us, the consumer. More research is needed however to truly tell if these GMOs have potential health effects. When businesses make technological breakthroughs like this, I believe they should weigh out the social and environmental impacts and finalize decisions based on them. They should also be held to a high standard if these breakthroughs cause a major impact such as climate change or pollution. GMOs currently are sitting in a weird spot where if the product does contain it but not detectable biologically, businesses are voluntarily able to disclose that their product contains GMOs which may cause some issues ethically.

What is your stance on GMOs at the moment and what would you tell businesses that use them?

Poinski, Megan. "Food Manufacturers Can Put GMO Labels on Their Products in 2020. Will They?" Food Dive, 27 Jan. 2020, [www.fooddive.com/news/food-manufacturers-can-put-gmo-labels-on-their-products-in-2020-will-they/570505/](https://www.fooddive.com/news/food-manufacturers-can-put-gmo-labels-on-their-products-in-2020-will-they/570505/).

Jimenez, Guillermo C., and Elizabeth Pulos. "4. Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)." Good Corporation Bad Corporation Corporate Social Responsibility in the Global Economy, Open SUNY Textbooks, [milnepublishing.geneseo.edu/good-corporation-bad-corporation/chapter/4-genetically-modified-organisms-gmos/](https://milnepublishing.geneseo.edu/good-corporation-bad-corporation/chapter/4-genetically-modified-organisms-gmos/).

## **Do I Have What It Takes? - Maneesh Wijewardhana**

**Maneesh Kandage Wijewardhana posted Feb 7, 2021 7:00 PM**

After reading up on multiple entrepreneurs and learning about what goes into it, I do believe I can be a successful entrepreneur!

There are multiple aspects to consider when thinking about entrepreneurship. Passion, drive, responsibility, and resources are a few that come into mind. My passions for either starting a small business or branding myself are really potent. When my mind is set on something I work towards it by avoiding as many obstacles as possible. Of course, I need to be prepared for the downs that will come in my way when starting something like this.

Having a drive is very easy for me because I am already driven to do multiple tasks outside of school. Things like improving to code projects, working on music, branding myself on social media, are all things that I one have a passion for, and two, that I am driven to do.

I know the responsibility that comes with trying to be an entrepreneur. Most people shy away from this part as with it, comes a lot of work you probably did not sign up for. Things like managing a team, leading ideas, working with other entrepreneurs, and deciding upon different directions when it comes to marketing yourself or your brand. All of these take hours away from the initial passion but you must be ready for it when it does become a responsibility.

What are your guys' passions? Would you ever consider taking it to the next level and try to market it? For me, it would be music. I love to play and make music in my free time and currently, I am really enjoying marketing it and trying to build something off of what I enjoy.

“What Does It Take to Be a Successful Entrepreneur?: HBS Online.” Business Insights - Blog, 9 July 2020, [online.hbs.edu/blog/post/what-does-it-take-to-be-an-entrepreneur](https://online.hbs.edu/blog/post/what-does-it-take-to-be-an-entrepreneur).

Hey Kiera!

This was a great post and I really like how you included everything that Honda is known for and what they are working on. I agree that Honda is still competitive and the sales statistics really show that as well. One thing I'd like to add is that not only do they manufacture these vehicles, they also manufacture Powersports vehicles such as ATV's, boat engines, and other small engines that go into pressure washers. It's amazing to see a company manifest these other industries to push the company forward. Personally, I work part-time as an automotive sales associate at Canadian Tire and all of our high-end pressure washers all come from small Honda engines. It's great to see the company staying competitive in all aspects!

Great post again,  
Maneesh

<<< Replied to post below >>>

Authored by: Kiera Orr-Casbourne

Authored on: Feb 12, 2021 5:51 PM

Subject: Porter's 5 Forces: Honda

Honda is a very well known Japanese car manufacturing company. Many people use cars as their preferred mode of transportation and as Honda produces sedans, trucks, and SUVs, the industry is fairly broad. Honda has a wide range of suppliers that include raw materials, labour, and technology.

As technology advances, the automotive industry is developing different trends, such as electric vehicles and autonomous driving (BSIC, 2020). Honda does have a limited range of hybrid and fuel cell car options that are less popular. However their full electric vehicle with a small range of 89 miles was discontinued (Baldwin, 2020). As more people are concerned about the environment, many people are looking towards buying an eco friendly substitute to a gas vehicle, such as Toyota's wide range of hybrids, including the RAV4 and Prius (Toyota, n.d.).

Honda definitely has competition in this industry since more companies such as Tesla are becoming increasingly popular. It is difficult for a company to change their production quickly since that means major car re-designs and significant changes for the assembly lines and factories that produce the car. This is the cost to change in an industry.

However, as all electric and some hybrid cars can be more expensive than gas powered cars, some customers cannot afford them. Honda is also well known for their quality and have many loyal customers that will continue to buy their products. Honda is currently focusing on staying competitive and planning on new electric cars in the near future (Baldwin, 2020).

The Automotive Industry: A Contemporary, Broad Picture - BSIC: Bocconi Students Investment Club. (2020, May 10). Retrieved February 12, 2021, from <https://bsic.it/the-automotive-industry-a-contemporary-broad-picture/>

Baldwin, R. (2020, March 9). Honda kills Clarity EV, its only all-electric car in U.S. Retrieved February 12, 2021, from <https://www.caranddriver.com/news/a31297220/honda-clarity-ev-discontinued/>

Toyota electrified VEHICLES: Hybrid electric, plug-in Hybrid ELECTRIC, & fuel cell electric. (n.d.). Retrieved February 12, 2021, from <https://www.toyota.ca/toyota/en/electric-cars-suvs#/al/electric-lineup>

## **Reflection**

Having to discuss with other students about the weekly topics allowed me to grasp a better understanding of the weekly topics. This is because having exposure to different perspectives allowed me to compare and contrast with ease. For example, when talking about information technology in week three, I received a lot of feedback concerning the exposure of IT in rural areas which I agreed with. This made me realize all of the other talking points about IT not just in my residence, but also many other ones. Communicating with my peers also helped me to understand the material. This is because explaining material to others has a direct correlation with teaching which is shown to help one understand the material better. Being able to make meaningful connections with other students made me feel a sense of initiative towards each discussion and made me feel eager to see their responses. One thing I would do differently is to be more concise when writing my responses to each question. Having a lot of ideas in theory is beneficial, however, I feel as though when other students read my posts, they should be able to clearly identify my points. Even though these discussions are asynchronous and would be much better in person, this approach still allowed me to expand my knowledge about the course material as well as connect with my fellow peers at the same time. Overall, this experience has helped me with my learning immensely.