Aidan Chin

Question 1

I believe engineers should obligated to solve climate change, it is unfair that we get to make all sorts of things with mass adoption without having the foresight to try and make sure it does not have a negative impact on the world. So many people out there do not care about the earth but there are many more who believe that the earth needs to be taken care of and treated like we want to live on it. We are making the situation worse by continuing to make and develop technologies that will not benefit us in the long run and people are too nearsighted to realize that if we continue this path then there will not be anything left. It is our duty to not destroy the world we live on. The ethics of it is that us the engineers, in the past have destroyed the ecosystem, and we must band together and try to make what we messed up right again. I believe the problem lies in the politics and the fabulously wealthy wanting more than they already have. Its easy to see that the wealthier countries are the ones that are contributing the most to the issue at hand. Politicians take the money and “lobbying” (bribes) from the rich companies to make them pass laws that they only agree with and can effectively do whatever they want with the regulation. I strongly believe that if lobbying was outlawed, and there was less corruption in the governments around the world, we would be moving much faster to a brighter future, right now all I can see is a money hungry country that has lost almost all of its original values. The wealth inequality now is at the same level as it was in the early 1900s and when that happened there was the great depression. I believe the climate change problem is as much as the engineers’ problem as it is the top 0.1% of the families who are only there to get richer. The top 0.1% should never, ever, have as much money as the bottom 90% combined.

Question 2

Engineering is a powerful tool that can greatly impact a society, for better or for worse. One example of how engineering has had a positive impact on society is the development of clean water systems. In many parts of the world, access to clean water is a major issue, and without it, people are at risk of serious health problems. By engineering systems to purify and distribute water, communities can greatly improve their health and well-being. Another example of engineering improving society is the use of flood barriers, such as those in Venice, Italy. Venice is a city that is particularly vulnerable to flooding, and without engineering interventions, the city was at constant risk of damage from flooding. By building flood barriers, engineers have helped to protect Venice from the destructive effects of flooding, allowing the city to continue to thrive. On the other hand, engineering can also have negative impacts on society. For example, the construction of highways and other infrastructure projects has often been used as an excuse to destroy neighborhoods with large minority populations, displacing those communities and making it difficult for them to access necessary services. There have also been plenty of accounts of deliberate design decisions to disadvantage minority communities like low overpasses blocking busses and putting dumps and other pollutants in their neighborhoods making them more susceptible to health risks. Overall, engineering has the potential to greatly impact society, for better or for worse. It is important for engineers to carefully consider the potential consequences of their designs, and to strive to create solutions that benefit society in a sustainable and equitable way.