

Justin Dyer – What will humans look like in 100 years?

I thought this presentation was very interesting and very well thought through. There is beginning a change of use of prosthetics. They used to be used to help someone if that part of the body was not functional anymore; however, now, prosthetics are being used to replace parts of the human body to enhance the body, due to their better design and functionality. Hearing aids, for example, used to be used to help those with bad hearing abilities, or no hearing abilities at all. They are now, in addition, being used as hearing enhancers for people with already prestigious hearing abilities, giving them “super hearing abilities”. This trend is setting the path to the human species’ future. Prosthetics are not going to only be used to heal the hurt, but also to enhance the healthy.

The use of prosthetics has evolved from external uses, such as hearing aids, legs, arms, etc., to internal uses, such as the heart, lungs, joints, and many other internal organs. The ability to not only replace vital parts of the body, but sometimes improve them, raises intriguing questions. How far can we go with this? Can we evolve the human species? What limitations do prosthetics have? Is it ethical? The answer to some of these is unknown; however, there are developments in reprogramming the human genome. This action could change everything about the human race. Not only could it enhance the subject, but all of its decedents as well. Is this necessary though? Is it ethical? Why even bother?

Analytics show that every species will reach extinction one day. This means that the human race would be gone forever. It is only a matter of time. The only thing we can do to avoid this is to expand our species to multiple planets with multiple types of humans. This sounds scary; however, it is necessary for human survival. I think the most impressive part of the presentation was this quote. “It is unethical not to alter the human body.” I believe this to an extent. I believe it is necessary to try.