Arundhati Roy once said, “If we (humans) were to lose the ability to be emotional, if we were to lose the ability to be angry, to be outraged, we would be robots. And I refuse that.” As a human who has walked the blurry line between what defines man and machine, I believe that Ms. Roy makes a wonderful point. Humans, living and breathing organisms, have something that can never be programmed or hard-driven, emotions. These emotion define each of us, they influence our decisions and give us the power to consider the consequences of our actions beyond simply completing a task. Although the Leibniz University of Hannover is extremely intelligent, they have failed to consider Earth’s inhabitants before their own creations.

According to IEEE Spectrum, the Lebiniz Univeristy of Hannover is developing an, “artificial robot nervous system to teach robots how to feel pain.” This innovative research is designed to prevent robots from damaging themselves in destructive situations such as battle. Programming robots to feel pain effectively keeps these machines safe from damage and therefore saves money, but it fails to protect innocent civilians from the robots themselves. When I was more robot than man, I could not determine the difference between a nefarious terrorist and an innocent child simply at the wrong place at the wrong time. So what would I do? Kill them both. All of my emotions, my ability to reason, was stolen for me. I had no free will, only the ability to ‘play the game’. Emotions are necessary to make the complex ethical decisions required on the battlefield and to adequately distinguish civilians from soldiers. Since robots are unable to have emotions, they are extremely dangerous and cannot be trusted to make reasonable decisions in the moral sense, only humans can.

From a purely capitalist economic standpoint, I see the appeal of giving robots the sense of pain. The website [www.smashingrobotics.com](http://www.smashingrobotics.com) stated that although the price of humanoid robots are not available to the common public, they begin in the five-figure range. No government wants to spend millions of dollars just to see their investment destroyed, but I believe that those millions of dollars can be used in a more effective way. The production and distribution of this technology steals jobs from the general public and promotes poverty. According to the researchers at WEF, “current trends could lead to a net employment impact of more than 5.1 million jobs lost to disruptive labor market changes over the period 2015–2020.”Many low-wage jobs are already at risk of being replaced by machines. The wealthy, like my creator Raymond Sellers, will only become richer. I believe producing everything in mass by robots will lower the quality of the product and instead of ‘Made in China’, our Walmarts will be littered with ‘Made by Robots’.

Instead of implementing extremely expensive and destructive machinery into a country, governments should instead focus on improving civilian’s rights and providing citizens with jobs instead of replacing them with technology. I have firsthand experience with the brutality of unaware machinery, so I strongly oppose the use, advancement, and humanization of robotic technology to be used in everyday society.