

A Clash of Ideals: Thoreau vs. Yang

Rumaisa: Welcome to the political debate for the upcoming 2020 election. I am moderator one. We are extremely honored to have Mr. Thoreau back from the dead, but it looks like presidential candidate Andrew Yang drew the shortest straw. Well, we're all here anyways, aren't we?

Alex Sun: I am moderator two and I was told that this would be a real political debate. Let's see how that goes. We will discuss the benefits vs. detriments of technology in modern society. But first, you may both give your opening statements. We will begin with you, Mr. Thoreau.

HDT: I hate to break it to you all, but technology is the only thing responsible for the downward spiral our country is facing. Technology has ruined us, and will ruin us further, destroying jobs, the environment, and ultimately, human spiritual health. To quote the wisest man on earth—myself-- *"I find in myself, and still find, an instinct toward a higher, or, as it is named, spiritual life, as do most men..."* Why take the evils of technology and the post office to the internet? We need to stop it, and we need to stop it now.

Rumaisa: Mr. Yang, your opening statements?

Yang: **whispering** Oh wow you guys are actually letting me speak. Unlike that first debate.

Alex Sun: Sorry Mr. Yang. Could you repeat that? Your mic was muted. I guess this was more like the first debate than you thought. **Insert microphone ball thing** Okay, its fixed. You may continue.

Yang: Anyways, you see, I disagree with all Thoreau's view on technology. They're actually the exact opposite of what we should be doing. // **TODO: Add relevant info**

Rumaisa: Let's move on to our first question. Mr. Thoreau, given your opinions on technology, can you state more about how you want to change society to align more with your views.

HDT: Technology has destroyed our society. Just look outside. **Where are THE LOONS--**

Yang: The only lunatic I see is standing next to me **points at Thoreau**

HDT: Whatever. All we see are factories, buildings and nothing but cars. Cars are pointless. Just walk. We should be self-sustained. Let's end all of this and create a society where we are able to live on our own and escape those pesky label makers that no one knows how to use.

Yang: Technology is a great asset for our society. We just need to eliminate its negative impact on people, which can easily be done. Thoreau is strongly against people laboring their whole lives in order to survive. This is not a bad idea, but his plan of doing this is the opposite of what we need to be doing as a country. He wants people to live in the woods and do minimal work, but the truth is that we need to do the work that we enjoy, which we would be able to do with a society in which technology does the hard work for us.

HDT: Here he goes preaching...again.

Alex Sun: YAWN.... Wow Okay then.that was longggg. Let's move on. For the next question, Mr. Thoreau, what are your views on climate ch-**interrupted by Thoreau*

HDT (YELLING): WANNA KNOW WHATS MORE EVIL THAN TECHNOLOGY?

// (#YANGGANG)

Someone guy in the crowd: Taxes!

HDT: That's right!!! If I become president, you can count on me to abolish the forced payment of taxes. Taxes are unfairly implemented to force people to pay for stuff they don't want. And now you want to increase taxes so that the government gets more revenue? They imprisoned me because I refused to support a war and slavery, and I will not let anyone else be inflicted with injustices that have no place in a land of democracy.

Alex Sun: well, that's not we asked but I don't really care at this point????? Let's move onto your views on how technology affects climate change, Mr. Yang.

-----**5 Minute Mark**-----

Yang: Moving on from Thoreau's views of doing ABSOLUTELY NOTHING to actually stop climate change. The problem that we face is companies using their machines to pollute our environment. The way to stop this is to tax them and give that money to the people, so that we benefit if they violate the regulations. Thoreau would probably use climate change as some excuse to promote his MINDLESS plan of living in the woods, but no one wants that.

HDT: So, right off the bat, we can all see that YANNNGGGG's views are fabricated with a fishing net filled with holes. Yang will destroy the country with more development and useless technology.

Yang: I wanna bring something up. You do realize that your way of life of being a completely garbage human is the way that all humans were back in the hunter-gatherer and caveman days. And DO YOU KNOW what happened as a result of that? Do you?

WE FORMED SOCIETIES AND CREATED TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE OUR LIVES.

There are always people who benefit and people who don't, but overall there's a net benefit. We can easily fix this so that everyone benefits.

Alex Sun: Why am I even here anymore.

Rumaisa: What do you mean? I'm just enjoying the bloodbath.

HDT: MR. YANG I'M DEAF TO STUPID TALK. I'M SORRY. My biggest goal will be to bring back the green. Increase reforestation projections to make it a federal responsibility to make urban areas more forested and eliminate all cities by 2030. If you choose Yang, he will industrialize this "technology" that will only increase emissions globally.

Yang: Funny how you claim to be deaf to stupid talk when THAT'S ALL YOU DO. Maybe that's why you can't tell how bad all your ideas are. You've never actually heard them! Also, yeah, I want to bring back the GREEN. THE GREEN MONEY that people are losing for no reason because of our ECONOMY. Also, if you actually listened to my POLICIES, you'd know

that I also support reforestation, but without technology, it's gonna be impossible to do it efficiently.

HDT: WHAT'S THAT? OH YEAH THAT'S RIGHT, I CAN'T HEAR YOU. THAT'S WHY I DON'T LISTEN TO YOUR POLICIES. ALSO, I DID REFORESTATION WITH JUST MY HOE AND MY BEAN FIELD. DON'T TELL EVERYONE LIES. If I'm president, I'll pay you, the people, to move into the forest and fully merge with nature. I'll Invest money in taking down electricity and --

Yang: Hold up. You're gonna "invest money" in something? But you're also going to abolish the tax "industry". Where's this money gonna come from?

HDT: We have printers in the treasury. It's not that complicated. Use your brain. Yang's just an unrealistic clamface who thinks he can save the world with a policy made of science-fiction. He can't even figure out something as simple as how to make money.

Beat that. *Drops mic*

Yang: Yeah, I LOVED those like 4 plants you planted during your time at Walden Pond. Great impact on our environment. You can plant trees without technology, but it won't be enough to have any meaningful impact. Also, ignoring all the other problems with your economic plan, you still need to cut down trees to print more money. So your plan is actually gonna make more trees get cut down.

Rumaisa: SO MOVING ON from this craziness. (whispers) Hey Alex, wake up...

Alex is asleep, gets woken up

Alex: Right. So in conclusion, oh my that was long. Yang says that technology can help fix this country by creating more jobs and allowing us to protect the environment. Technology has contributed heavily in improving our quality of life and will continue to improve the lives of many others.

Rumaisa: Whereas, Thoreau states that this country will be better off without the thing that destroyed it in the first place. He says that we need to destroy technology before it destroys us and allow ourselves to fully experience human life by immersing ourselves in nature.

Alex & Rumaisa: I think there's only one thing left to do.

Both moderators & Yang throw microphones at HDT

The end.