

THE FUTURE. The future of motoring has arrived ... self-driving cars are a reality; in 2018 the first self-driving cars for the public will appear. Around 2025 the motor industry will start to be disrupted; people will not want to own a car anymore. **O**ur kids' lives will be dramatically different from ours; they will not anymore need a driver license. We will call a car by phone; it will show up at our location and drive us to our destination; on the way we can work ... we'll be productive while travelling. **I**t will change our cities; no more streets clogged with parked cars. 1.2m people a year die in car accidents, we have one accident every 60,000 miles. With self-driving cars that will drop to one accident in 6m miles; this will save a million lives each year. **E**lectric cars will be mainstream about 2020. Cities will be less noisy and polluted because all new cars, buses and trucks will run on electricity, which will become cheap and clean; solar energy has been on an exponential growth curve for thirty years. **S**oftware will disrupt traditional industries in the next 5-10 years. Uber is just a software tool, they don't own any cars but are now the biggest taxi company in the world ... tech companies will revolutionize the car industry, as they build computers on wheels. **T**hese changes will be the greatest transport revolution since the invention of the wheel, arguably with a more widespread impact than the evolution from horse-drawn buggies to jet planes. People will have a new freedom, one not restricted to the rich.

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It will be interesting - won't it? - just how the numbers and statistics in this essay will require revising over the next few months and years. You can easily keep up with revisions on my website, go to ABOUT, then to BOOK REVISIONS.

In the press were news that last year was a record year for car crash deaths, in the US as many as 40,000. How many deaths were resultant from terrorism? 3,024. But that was over 40 years, 1975 - 2015 and it includes the 2,983 killed at 911.

Tens of billions of dollars are spent on the prevention of casualties resulting from terrorism. Why are governments not investing similar amounts into safe road system that are geared toward self driving cars, trucks and buses?

The question may be naïve; the answer lies in the first sentence of the previous essay, on terrorism: It suits the conservative government to convince people they are in imminent, serious danger. Then they are more easily manipulated.

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