



Lecture 21

Work and Wealth

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Participation Quiz

6. You're in a car with a helium balloon tied to the floor. The windows are closed. When you step on the gas pedal, what happens to the balloon – does it move forward, move backward, or stay put?

Does the balloon move forward, backward or stay still?



By Kirit Saelensminde

A

Moves forward

B

Moves backward

C

Stays put

Automation

Let's try another class debate:

“Increasing automation will lead to an era of high unemployment.”

If the last digit of your primary (e.g., mobile) phone number is **even**, you're arguing **for** the proposition.



For



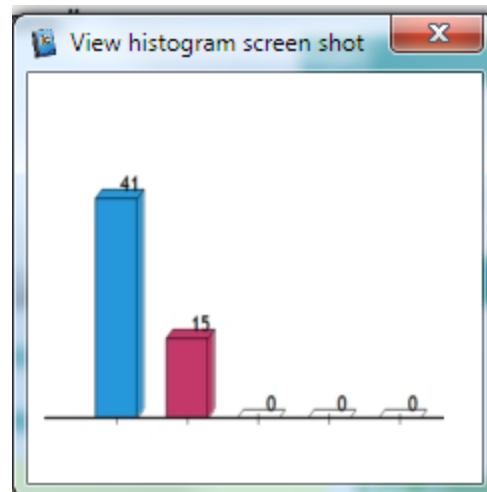
Against

Increase in Productivity

- Working long hours
 - North Americans (particularly Americans) work longer hours than other cultures and other times in history
- Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism
 - A famous explanation of this restless work ethic
 - Linked it to Calvinist theology of predestination
- We have exchanged leisure time for possessions
 - Do you think this exchange is worth it? Would you exchange a much lower standard of living for much more free time?

Computer and Network Security

“Canadians should have the right to vote online in federal, provincial and municipal elections.”



Are Robots on the Rise?

- It seems every year there's a high-profile robotic success
 - self-driving cars
 - playing Jeopardy
- Ethical questions:
 - *Is it wrong to create machines capable of making human labor obsolete? Will humans become demoralized by the presence of vastly more intelligent robots?*
 - *How can we ensure that intelligent robots will not be put to an evil purpose by a malevolent human? How can we ensure they do not adopt malevolent purposes themselves?*
 - *Is it morally acceptable to create “personal” (self-conscious) AI?*

