

THE FUTURE 1. Soon the future of motoring will arrive. In due time self-driving taxis and hire cars will be a reality, though self-driving cars may not go mainstream. Within a decade or two the industry will be disrupted; people may not anymore wish to own cars. **O**ur lives will be dramatically changed. We will order a car by phone, it will - driverless - show up at our phone's location, and while we travel we will rest, play or work ... we will chill, or be productive. No more getting irate in traffic; road rage will be a thing of the past. **I**t'll change cities; streets will no longer be clogged with parked cars. 1.2 million people a year die in car crashes, we have one accident every 60,000 miles. With self-driving cars that will drop to one accident in six million miles; this will save a million lives each year.* **E**lectric vehicles will be mainstream within a few years. Cities will be less noisy and less polluted because all new cars, buses and trucks will run on electricity, which will become cheap and clean; solar energy has been on a growth curve for some thirty years. **S**oftware will disrupt traditional industries in the coming years. Uber is just a software tool, presently they don't own any cars but are now the biggest taxi company in the world; tech companies will revolutionize the vehicle 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.

see my blogs 866, 907

** And that are just the road deaths ... car crashes are the 8th leading cause of death, but many more people are injured. In the US 4.4 million people per year are injured in car crashes. The cost to the economy is \$870 billion.*

*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? 3,277. But that was over 21 years, 1995 - 2016 and it includes the 2,902 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 essay on terrorism: It suits the conservative government to convince people they are in imminent, serious danger. Then they are more easily manipulated.

*see also PATRIOTISM
and TERRORISM*

*** start.umd.edu/news/fact-sheet-american-deaths-terrorist-attacks-1995-2016*