

# HumanProgress



The 20th century saw the birth of truly world-changing technologies.

Airplanes, cars, and shipping containers revolutionized transport and trade, radios and televisions ushered in the age of mass media, and new machines freed billions from lives of drudgery.

Compared with all that, what does the 21st century have to show for itself so far?

As it turns out, a lot, provided that you broaden your perspective.

[Read more.](#)

As late as the Battle of Waterloo, in 1815, during which 55,000 men were either killed or wounded, dead soldiers were stripped before being buried.

Why would anyone bother stripping the dead, when every hour increased the danger of putrefaction and the spread of disease?

The most likely reason for the practice was that clothing was still very expensive and the uniforms were washed, patched, and reused.



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