

...matter how dull my speech,
...other hand, I may be fortunate that my mother isn't here. It isn't Mother's Day, so I can be honest. I loved her dearly, but
...Endowment for the Arts, she phoned and said, "Don't think this impresses me."
...that there was a bit of controversy when my name was announced as the graduation speaker. A few students were especially
...then told my wife and children, "I'm simply not famous enough."
...—in a more general and less personal sense—is the subject I want to address today, the fact that we live in a culture that barely ackn
...an experiment I'd love to conduct. I'd like to survey a cross-section of Americans and ask them how many active NBA players, Major Le
...to ask them how many living American poets, playwrights, painters, sculptors, architects, classical musicians, conductors, and compos
...like to ask how many living American scientists or social thinkers they can name.
...ars ago, I suspect that along with Mickey Mantle, Willie Mays, and Sandy Koufax, most Americans could have named, at the very least, fr
...ontyne-Price, Frank Lloyd Wright, and many others. Not to mention scientists and thinkers like Linus Pauling, Jonas Salk, Rachel Carson,
...think that Americans were smarter then, but American culture was. Even the mass media placed a greater emphasis on presenting a
...and mostly among immigrants, many of whom never learned to speak English. But at night, watching TV variety programs like the Ed
...ars —classical musicians like Jascha Heifetz and Arthur Schnitger, opera singers like Robert Merrill and Anna Moffo, jazz greats like Du
...was even true of literature. I first encountered Robert Frost, John Steinbeck, Lillian Hellman, and James Baldwin on general interest TV
...them important.

附原声MP3光盘

...working-class or immigrant kid would encounter that range of arts and ideas in the popular culture. Almost everything in our nation
...of recognition for artists, thinkers, and scientists has impoverished our culture in innumerable ways, but let me mention one. When vir
...we offer the young.
...re so many other successful and meaningful ways to lead a life not denominated by money or fame. Adult life begins in a child's imagin
...se, I'm not forgetting that politicians can also be famous, I work in Washington. But it is interesting how our political process grows more
...Report becomes more important than passing legislation, if democracy gets scary. No wonder Hollywood considers politics "show busin
...ng now is entertainment. And the purpose of this omnipresent commercial entertainment is to sell us something. American culture has
...recurring nightmare. I am in Rome visiting the Sistine Chapel. I look up at Michelangelo's incomparable fresco of the "Creation of Man."
...and Adam is holding a Diet Pepsi.
...as the last time you saw a featured guest on David Letterman or Jay Leno who isn't trying to sell you something? A new movie, a new
...of the wrong. I love entertainment, and I love the free market. I have a Stanford MBA. I spent 15 years in the food industry. I adore my b
...a society of unprecedented prosperity.
...must remember that the marketplace does only one thing—it puts a price on everything.
...of culture, however, must go beyond economics. It is not focused on the price of things, but on their value. And, above all, a culture sh
...should also provide some cogent view of the good life beyond mass accumulation. In this respect, our culture is failing us.
...only one social force in America potentially large and strong enough to counterbalance this profit-driven commercialization of cultura
...e thing that our nation has agreed cannot be left entirely to the marketplace—but made mandatory and freely available to everyone.
...am just old enough to remember a time when every public high school in this country had a music program with choir and band, usual
...y, sometimes with dance instruction. And there were writing opportunities in the school paper and literary magazine, as well as studio
...to say that these programs are no longer widely available to a new generation of Americans. This once visionary and democratic syst
...ioners and state officials, with the federal government not only indifferent to the issue, but becoming an even greater liability at \$30 million
...or parents' income.
...of the program are so large, it's difficult to see how this cultural experience of this educational program can be left to the market.

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在美国名校听名人原声演讲

our best minds and the broader public, the results would not only transform society but also artistic and intellectual life.
etter place to start this rapprochement than in arts education. How do we explain the benefits of this civic investment when the
y a compelling argument to either the average taxpayer or financially strapped school board?

人生就是提取精华的过程

在斯坦福大学听名人原声演讲

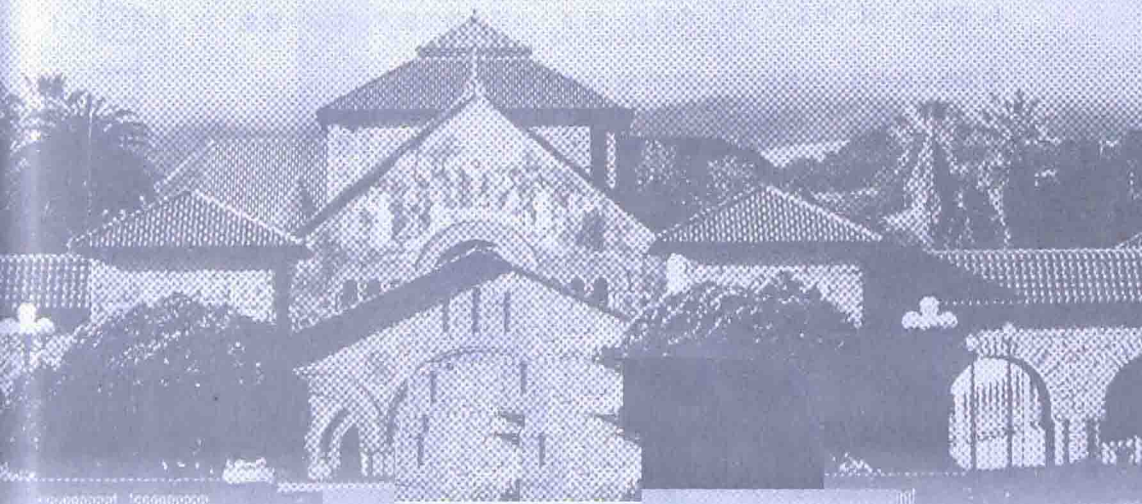
...create a national consensus on the purpose of education is not a piece of art or literature. The r
...ctive lives in a free society.
...opening now in America's schools. We're producing a large number of kids that only 70 percent of them graduate
...producing minimally competent entry-level workers?
...is a cultural and educational disaster, but it also has huge and alarming economic consequences. If the United States is to compet
...ugh cheap labor or to remain a nation that can't compete with the rest of the world, we have to compete successfully
...ee those qualities that make education so important. The art of education is to help students understand and has mostly elim
...stand the enormous transformative power of the arts—in the lives of individuals, in communities, and even society at large.
...us believed that the course of wisdom consisted of learning to trade easy pleasures for more complex and challenging ones. I wo
...entertainment. And that is exactly what is happening.

正瑞译 编

...promises us predictable pleasures—humor, thrills, emotional gratification, or even the odd delight of being vicariously terrified. It e
...spends a month mastering Halo or NBA Live on Xbox has not been awakened and transformed the way that child would
...e, you should read the statistical studies that are now coming out about American civic participation. Our country is divid
...consumers of electronic entertainment. Even family communication is breaking down as members increasingly spend their tin
...r group also uses and enjoys the new technology, but these individuals balance it with a broader range of activities. They go out—to
...every measure they are vastly more active and socially engaged.
...the difference that defines the passive from active citizens? Curiously, it isn't income, geography, or even education. It depends on wh
...heightened sense of individual awareness and social responsibility.

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...these issues matter to you? This is the culture you are about to enter. For the last few years you have had the privilege of being at one
...s and ideas seriously. Even if you spent most of your time playing Guitar Hero, or Facebooking your fri
...tics, technology, and ideas.
...shed graduates, your support system is about to end. And you now face the choice of whether you want to be a passive consumer of
...change it?
...o easy task, so don't forget what the arts provide,
...irreplaceable way of understanding and expressing the world—equal to but distinct from scientific and conceptual methods. Art ad



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在美国名校听名人原声演讲

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王瑞泽 编

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01

Technology Should Benefit Everyone

Bill Gates & Melinda Gates

科技应该让人人受益

微软创始人比尔·盖茨和妻子梅琳达·盖茨



盖茨夫妇 小 传

比尔·盖茨(Bill Gates, 1955年10月28日—), 美国企业家、软件工程师、慈善家、微软公司创始人, 曾任微软董事长、首席执行官和首席软件设计师。

比尔·盖茨生于西雅图并在那里长大。他的父亲是西雅图的一名律师, 母亲是一家银行的董事。他在13岁时开始了计算机编程。1973年, 盖茨考进了哈佛大学, 后与童年伙伴保罗·艾伦一起为电脑设计BASIC解译器。1975年, 他与保罗·艾伦一起创建了微软公司, 在大学三年级的时候, 盖茨离开了哈佛并把全部精力投入到微软公司中。1981年, 比尔·盖茨从为他大赚一笔的DOS操作系统转向研发WINDOWS。1994年, 凭借WINDOWS操作系统带来的滚滚财富, 比尔·盖茨成为世界首富。此后在福布斯全球亿万富翁排行榜中, 比尔·盖茨连续多年蝉联世界首富。2008年6月27日盖茨正式从微软公司退休, 并把580亿美元个人财产捐到比尔和梅琳达·盖茨基金会。

梅琳达·盖茨(Melinda Gates, 1964年8月15日—), 出生于得克萨斯州达拉斯市的一个中产阶级家庭, 从小就聪慧好学。1987年, 梅琳达获得杜克大学的计算机和经济学双学士学位。第二年, 她又拿下杜克商学院的工商管理硕士学位。毕业后, 精明能干的梅琳达加入了微软公司。1994年, 梅琳达与比尔·盖茨结为夫妻。现在, 梅琳达主要致力于比尔和梅琳达·盖茨基金会的慈善工作。

2014年6月15日, 比尔·盖茨夫妇接受斯坦福大学的邀请参加该校第123届毕业典礼并联袂发表演讲。比尔·盖茨夫妇在演讲中阐述了科技的力量, 热切期望毕业生们能利用当今无比先进的科技力量造福人类, 尤其要利用现代科技去改变非洲贫穷国家里贫穷人民的命运。像比尔·盖茨夫妇这样一起在美国高校毕业典礼上联袂发表演讲的情形应该是绝无仅有的, 这似乎从另外一方面体现了这个软件天才的创新思想无处不在。

英文原文

Bill Gates: Congratulations, Class of 2014! Melinda and I are excited to be here. It would be a **thrill**¹ for anyone to be invited to speak at a Stanford Commencement—but it's especially **gratifying**² for us.

Stanford is rapidly becoming the favorite university for members of our family. And it's long been a favorite university for Microsoft and our foundation. Our formula has been to get the smartest, most creative people working on the most important problems. It turns out that a **disproportionate**³ number of those people are at Stanford.

Right now, we have more than 30 foundation research projects underway here. When we want to learn more about the immune system to help cure the worst diseases, we work with Stanford. When we want to understand the changing landscape of higher education in the United States so that more low-income students get college degrees, we work with Stanford.

This is where genius lives.

There is a flexibility of mind here—an openness to change, an eagerness for what's new. This is where people come to discover the future and have fun doing it.

Melinda Gates: Now, some people call you all nerds—we hear that you claim that label with pride.

Bill: Well, so do we.

My normal glasses really aren't all that different⁴.

There are so many remarkable things going on here at this campus. But if Melinda and I had to put into one word what we love most about Stanford, it's

1 thrill: /θrɪl/ *n.* 激动; 兴奋

2 gratifying: /'grætɪfəɪŋ/ *adj.* 令人高兴的; 令人满足的

3 disproportionate: /,dɪsprə'pɔ:ʃənɪt/ *adj.* 不成比例的

4 My normal glasses really aren't all that different: 我的普通眼镜也没什么大不同的(视频显示, 盖茨夫妇此前戴的是一副特殊眼镜)

the **optimism**¹. There's an infectious feeling here that innovation can solve almost every problem.

That's the belief that drove me, in 1975, to leave a **college**² in the suburbs of Boston and go on an endless **leave of absence**³. I believed that the magic of computers and software would **empower**⁴ people everywhere and make the world much, much better.

It's been 40 years since then, and 20 years since Melinda and I were married. We are both more optimistic now than ever. But on our journey, our optimism evolved. We'd like to tell you what we learned and talk to you today about how your optimism and ours can do more for more people.

When Paul Allen and I started Microsoft, we wanted to bring the power of computers and software to the people—and that was the kind of **rhetoric**⁵ we used. One of the pioneering books in the field had a raised fist on the cover, and it was called *Computer Lib*. At that time, only big businesses could buy computers. We wanted to offer the same power to regular people and democratize computing.

By the 1990s, we saw how profoundly personal computers could empower people. But that success created a new **dilemma**⁶: If rich kids got computers and poor kids didn't, then technology would make inequality worse. That **ran counter to**⁷ our core belief: Technology should benefit everyone. So we worked to close the digital divide. I made it a priority at Microsoft, and Melinda and I made it an early priority at our foundation—donating personal computers to public libraries to make sure everyone had access.

The digital divide was a focus of mine in 1997 when I took my first trip to South

1 optimism: /'ɒptɪmɪzəm/ n. 乐观; 乐观主义

2 a college: 当然指的是哈佛大学。

3 leave of absence: 假期; 休假

4 empower: /ɪm'paʊə/ n. 赋予……力量

5 rhetoric: /'retərɪk/ n. 修辞; 极具说服力的言辞

6 dilemma: /dɪ'lemə/ n. 困境; 进退两难的境地

7 run counter to: 违反; 与……背道而驰

Africa. I went there **on business**¹, so I spent most of my time in meetings in downtown Johannesburg. I stayed in the home of one of the richest families in South Africa. It had only been three years since the election of Nelson Mandela marked the end of **apartheid**². When I sat down for dinner with my hosts, they used a bell to call the **butler**³. After dinner, the women and men separated, and the men smoked cigars. I thought, “Good thing I read **Jane Austen**⁴, or I wouldn’t have known what was going on.”

But the next day I went to Soweto—the poor township southwest of Johannesburg that had been a center of the anti-apartheid movement.

It was a short distance from the city into the township, but the entry was sudden, **jarring**⁵, and harsh. I passed into a world completely unlike the one I came from.

My visit to Soweto became an early lesson in how naïve I was.

Microsoft was donating computers and software to a community center there—the kind of thing we did in the United States. But it became clear to me very quickly that this was not the United States.

I had seen statistics on poverty, but I had never really seen poverty. The people there lived in **corrugated**⁶ tin shacks with no electricity, no water, no toilets. Most people didn’t wear shoes; they walked barefoot along the streets. Except there were no streets—just **ruts**⁷ in the **mud**⁸.

The community center had no consistent source of power, so they **rigged up**⁹ an

1 on business: 为了公事; 出差

2 apartheid: /ə'pɑ:tait/ n. 种族隔离制度

3 butler: /'bʌtlə/ n. 男管家

4 Jane Austen: 简·奥斯汀, 英国著名女性小说家。她的作品主要关注乡绅家庭女性的婚姻和生活, 以女性特有的细致入微的观察力和活泼风趣的文字真实地描绘了她周围的小世界, 代表作有《傲慢与偏见》《理智与情感》等。

5 jarring: /'dʒɑ:riŋ/ adj. 不和谐的; 刺耳的

6 corrugated: /'kɒrəʒeɪtɪd/ adj. 波纹状的; 有瓦楞的

7 rut: /rʌt/ n. 车辙

8 mud: /mʌd/ n. 泥; 烂泥

9 rig up: 草草做成; 临时搭起

extension cord that ran 200 feet from the center to a **diesel generator**¹ outside. Looking at this setup, I knew the minute the reporters left, the generator would get moved to a more urgent task, and the people who used the community center would go back to worrying about challenges that couldn't be solved by a PC.

When I gave my prepared remarks to the press, I said: "Soweto is a milestone. There are major decisions ahead about whether technology will leave the developing world behind. This is to close the gap."

But as I read those words, I knew they weren't super relevant. What I didn't say was: "By the way, we're not focused on the fact that half a million people on this continent are dying every year from **malaria**². But we're sure **as hell**³ going to bring you computers."

Before I went to Soweto, I thought I understood the world's problems, but I was blind to many of the most important ones. I was so **taken aback**⁴ by what I saw that I had to ask myself, "Did I still believe that innovation can solve the world's toughest problems?"

I promised myself that before I came back to Africa, I would find out more about what keeps people poor.

Over the years, Melinda and I did learn more about the pressing needs of the poor. On a later trip to South Africa, I paid a visit to a hospital for patients with MDR-TB, or multi-drug-resistant **tuberculosis**⁵, a disease with a cure rate of under 50 percent.

I remember that hospital as a place of despair. It was a giant open **ward**⁶ with **a sea of**⁷ patients **shuffling**⁸ around in pajamas, wearing masks.

1 diesel generator: 柴油发电机

2 malaria: /mə'leəriə/ n. 疟疾

3 as hell: 非常地; 极其地

4 take aback: 使吃惊; 使惊呆

5 tuberculosis: /tjuː'bɜːkjuː'liʊsɪs/ n. 肺结核; 结核病

6 ward: /wɔːd/ n. 病房; 病区

7 a sea of: 大量

8 shuffle: /'ʃʌfəl/ v. 拖着脚走路; 慢吞吞地走

There was one floor just for children, including some babies lying in bed. They had a little school for kids who were well enough to learn, but many of the children couldn't make it, and the hospital didn't seem to know whether it was worth it to keep the school open.

I talked to a patient there in her early thirties. She had been a worker at a TB hospital when she **came down with**¹ a cough. She went to a doctor, and he told her she had drug-resistant TB. She **was** later **diagnosed with**² **AIDS**³. She wasn't going to live much longer, but there were plenty of MDR patients waiting to take her bed when she **vacated**⁴ it.

This was hell with a **waiting list**⁵.

But seeing this hell didn't reduce my optimism; it **channeled**⁶ it. I got into the car as I left and told the doctor who we were working with: "I know MDR-TB is hard to cure. But we must do something for these people." And in fact, this year, we're entering phase three with a new TB drug regime. For patients who respond, instead of a 50 percent cure rate after 18 months for \$2,000, we could get an 80 percent cure rate after six months for under \$100.

Optimism is often **dismissed**⁷ as false hope. But there is also false hopelessness.

That's the attitude that says we can't defeat poverty and disease.

We absolutely can.

Melinda: Bill called me that day after he visited the TB hospital. Normally, if one of us is on an international trip, we'll go through our agenda for the day: who we met and where we have been. But this call was different. Bill said to me: "Melinda, I've been somewhere that I've never been before" and then he choked up and couldn't go on. And

1 come down with: 染上(疾病)

2 be diagnosed with: 被诊断出患有

3 AIDS: /eɪdz/ abbr. 获得性免疫缺陷综合征; 艾滋病 (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)

4 vacate: /və'keɪt/ v. 空出; 腾出

5 waiting list: 候补名单; 等候批准的申请人名单

6 channel: /'tʃænl/ v. 引导; 疏导

7 dismiss: /dɪs'mɪs/ v. 不予理会; 不予考虑

he finally just said: “I’ll tell you more when I get home.”

And I knew what he was going through. Because when you see people with so little hope, it breaks your heart. But if you want to do the most, you have to go see the worst. I’ve had days like that, too.

About ten years ago, I traveled with a group of friends to India. On the last day I was there, I had a meeting with a group of **prostitutes**¹. I expected to talk to them about the risk of AIDS that they were facing, but what they wanted to talk to me about was **stigma**². Many of these women had been abandoned by their husbands, and that’s why they even went into prostitution. They wanted to be able to feed their children. They were so low in the eyes of society that they could be raped and robbed and beaten by anyone—even the police—and nobody cared.

Talking to them about their lives was so moving to me. But what I remember most was how much they wanted to be touched. They wanted to touch me and to be touched by them. It was as if physical contact somehow proved their worth. And so before I left, we linked arms hand in hand and did a photo together.

Later that same day, I spent some time in India in a home for the dying. I walked into a large hall and saw rows and rows of **cots**³. Every cot was **attended to**⁴ except for one that was far off in the corner. So I decided to go over there. The patient who was in this room was a woman in her thirties. And I remember her eyes. She had these huge, brown, sorrowful eyes. She was **emaciated**⁵, on the verge of death. Her **intestines**⁶ weren’t holding anything—so the workers had put a pan under her bed and cut a hole in the bottom of the bed, and everything in her was just pouring out into that pan.

1 prostitute: /ˈprɒstɪtju:t/ n. 妓女

2 stigma: /ˈstɪgmə/ n. 耻辱; 羞辱

3 cot: /kɒt/ n. 轻便小床; 病床

4 attend to: 照顾; 照料

5 emaciated: /ɪˈmeɪʃieɪtɪd/ adj. 瘦弱的; 憔悴的

6 intestine: /ɪnˈtestɪn/ n. 肠

I could tell she had AIDS, both from the way she looked, and the fact that she was off in this corner alone. The stigma of AIDS is vicious—especially for women—and the punishment is abandonment.

When I arrived at her cot, I suddenly felt completely and totally helpless. I had absolutely nothing I could offer this woman. I knew I couldn't save her, but I didn't want her to be alone. So I knelt down next to her and put my hand out. She reached for my hand and grabbed it. And she wouldn't let it go. But I didn't speak her language. I couldn't think what I should say to her. Finally I just said to her: "It's going to be okay. It's going to be okay. It's not your fault."

After I had been with her for sometime, she started pointing to the rooftop. She clearly wanted to go up. I realised the sun was going down and what she wanted to do was go up on the rooftop and see the sunset. So the workers in this home for the dying were very busy. I said to them: "Can we take her up on the rooftop?" They said, "No, no, no, we have to **pass out**¹ medicines." So I waited for that to happen. I asked another worker, and they said, "No, no, no, we're too busy. We can't get her up there."

So finally I just **scooped**² this woman up in my arms—she was nothing more than skin over bones—and I took her up on the rooftop and I found one of those plastic chairs that **blows over**³ in a light breeze. I put it there, sat her down, and put a blanket over her legs.

And she sat there facing to the west, watching the sunset. The workers knew—I made sure that they knew—that she was absolutely there so that they would bring her down later that evening after the sun went down. Then I had to leave.

But she never left me.

I felt completely and totally inadequate in the face of this woman's death.

But sometimes it's the people that you can't help that inspire you the most.

1 pass out: 分发; 发放

2 scoop: /sku:p/ v. 一下子抱起

3 blow over: 吹倒; 刮倒

I knew that those sex workers I had met in the morning could be the woman I carried upstairs later that evening—unless we found a way to defy the stigma that hung over their lives.

Over the past 10 years, our foundation has helped sex workers build support groups so they could empower one another to speak up and demand safe sex and that their clients use condoms. Their brave efforts have helped keep **HIV**¹ prevalence low among sex workers, and a lot of studies show that is the big reason why the AIDS epidemic hasn't exploded in India.

When these sex workers gathered together to help stop AIDS transmission, something unexpected and wonderful happened. The community they formed became a platform for everything. Police and others who raped and robbed them couldn't get away with it anymore. The women set up systems to encourage savings for one another. With those savings, they were able to leave sex work. This was all done by people that society considered the lowliest of the low.

Optimism for me is not a passive expectation that things are going to get better; for me it's a conviction and a belief that we can make things better. So no matter how much suffering we see, no matter how bad it is, we can help people if we don't lose hope and if we don't **look away**².

Bill: Melinda and I have described some devastating scenes. But we want to make the strongest case we can for the power of optimism. Even in **dire**³ situations, optimism fuels innovation and lead to new approaches that eliminate suffering. But if you never really see the people who are suffering, your optimism can't help them. You will never change their world.

And that brings me to what I see as a **paradox**⁴.

1 HIV: *abbr.* 人体免疫缺陷病毒; 艾滋病病毒 (Human Immunodeficiency Virus)

2 look away: 扭头看别处; 把脸转过去

3 dire: /daɪə/ *adj.* 可怕的; 悲惨的; 极端的

4 paradox: /'pærədɒks/ *n.* 悖论; 似非而是的论点

The modern world is an incredible source of innovation—and Stanford stands at the center of that, creating new companies, new schools of thought, prize-winning professors, inspired art and literature, miracle drugs, and amazing graduates. Whether you are a scientist with a new discovery, or working **in the trenches**¹ to understand the needs of the most marginalized, you are advancing amazing breakthroughs in what human beings can do for each other.

At the same time, if you ask people across the United States, “Is the future going to be better than the past?” most say: “No. My kids will be worse off than I am.” They think innovation won’t make the world better for them or their children.

So who’s right?

The people who say innovation will create new possibilities and make the world better?

... or ...

The people who see a trend toward inequality and a decline in opportunity and don’t think innovation will change that?

The pessimists are wrong in my view, but they’re not crazy. If innovation is purely market-driven and we don’t focus on the big inequities, then we could have amazing advances in inventions that leave the world even more divided. We won’t improve public schools. We won’t cure malaria. We won’t end poverty. We won’t develop the innovations poor farmers need to grow food in a changing climate.

If our optimism doesn’t address the problems that affect so many of our fellow human beings, then our optimism needs more **empathy**². If empathy channels our optimism, we will see the poverty and the disease and the poor schools, we will answer with our innovations, and we will surprise the pessimists.

Over the next generation, you Stanford graduates will lead a new wave of innovation.

1 in the trenches: 在第一线; 在现场; 在壕沟中。trench: /trentʃ/ n. 沟渠; 战壕

2 empathy: /ˈempəθi/ n. 同情; 同理心; 共情