

BRAVE NEW WORLD: How Utopia Becomes Dystopia

Reflect on the utopia you have created. Think critically about the ways that your ideal society could be flawed. Review the examples given below. Devise your own scenarios / examples of how the values and ideals in your perfect world could lead to destruction or dystopia.

Example #1: Creating a completely secure society may cost citizens some of their rights. Citizens may need to give up some rights in order to keep other rights.

Example #2: A technological society that solves all problems actually creates more problems through technology. For instance, technology may help humanity become more efficient and live forever, but creates the problem of a lack of jobs, pollution and human purpose.

Example #3: A society that tries to sensor all information for safety purposes could end up isolating itself from the rest of the world.

Example #4: In our society most people have access to an iPhone and an iPad. This is ideological. But at what cost? Are these devices being made with sweatshop labor from people earning one dollar an hour working in a room with no windows and no air circulation for 16 hours a day?

Example #5: A utilitarian society that must sacrifice the good of some for the good of many. Is any society truly egalitarian? Research hedonic calculus. Does your society fall victim to this model?

YOUR SCENARIOS:

Example #1:

Example #2:

Example #3:

Example #4: