The Future of Internal Combustion Engines

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What is the future? Could it be flying cars? Or could it possibly be having a vacation on the moon. No matter what it is, transportation plays a big part on how we continue on and the method of how to power vehicles is something for the future. Within an article, they claims that electric vehicles are just better than traditional combustion engines for the environment and Budgetwise too. I both agree and disagree, I believe that the internal combustion engine can still have a place for the future and better for our wallets.

One thing that electric cars most definitely do better is the emissions tests as they do not pollute the air nor even release any carbon emissions whatsoever. An article written by Rystad Energy, claims that electric vehicles make half of the emissions of gas cars or even diesel vehicles along with the replacements of fossil fuels with renewable energy. This means that if improvements were made with electric vehicles and renewable technology, we won't be so dependent on fossil fuels making it a much safer environment for people and would be polluting the air less.

With the increase of electric vehicles, one of the best things to ever happen with the increase use of electric vehicles is that it has brought down air pollution down and has helped others whether they own electric vehicles or not at all. In *Why The Electric Vehicle Revolution Can Benefit Everyone,* written, Courtney Lindwall (2023) a journalist writing to students in new York city, states that the transition into electric vehicles has really improved the air quality and reduced the amount of hospital visitation on asthma related cases as supported by an article by ScienceDirect, a site of news journals all about science, backs up this claim by showing that within certain zip codes, there were significant reduction in asthma ED visits. This shows that while electric vehicles are more expensive, they help and improve our lives a lot especially people that have respiratory issues. The benefits of electric vehicles making less pollutant is

really showing the impact towards us humans because with there being less carbon polluting cars going around, the less cases of humans going hospitals relating towards breathing and lung issues.

But with all good things that happen, there are always downsides, and the downsides of owning an electric car is that it is much more expensive to buy than a regular gas powered vehicle. An article, written by Roberta Pescow (2024) a journalist specializing in personal finance and lifestyle, states that the price difference between regular gasoline vehicles and electric vehicles is that regular gas vehicles are almost $8000 cheaper than the average electric vehicles. With this information, I would like to say that I am talking about upfront cost but I am not talking about maintenance costs, gas/charging costs, or even insurance. If you were to take into account of overall costs, it could vary depending on the owner what someone does to a car.

With the advancements of many technological wonders to this day, it shouldn't be a surprise that even internal combustion engines have technological wonders and research being made even to this day. An article from *Porsche*, states that *Porsche* themselves alongside the help of various companies, is putting in research into synthetic fuel to make it carbon negative. A video made by Donut Media (2023), a YouTube channel reputable for not only doing videos about the history of cars, but also doing and showing videos of car parts and accessories, but has shown the process and the science behind how it works and the way it works is that the plant takes hydrogen from water and carbon that is delivered to them, and mix them together to get a hydrogen carbon compound. They plan to research technology that could capture carbon within the air but that is a whole other story. The best thing about this whole alternative fuel situation is that you can even use the fuel within the engines we use today, so that you don't need a special

engine for it to run. The only downside to this is that the fuel is really expensive but we are in the early stages of developing technology making it really expensive almost $40 per gallon.

With the improvement of technology, companies are trying to find ways to turn engines into being carbon neutral. Many companies are finding ways to insert this technology into their own cars and manufacturing plants, but the *Toyota* chairman has stated that engines are still the way to go for being carbon neutral. An article written by the staff of Nikkei (2024), a news outlet all about news within Asia, has released an article saying that *Toyota* is finding ways to make carbon neutral engines for their cars so they can have net zero carbon emissions for their cars. One way they are making engines exist within the future is with hydrogen fueled cars which has already existed with the Toyota Mirai being an electric car with hydrogen fuel cells. While it wasn't disclosed by the chairman themselves, it could be assumed that they are developing a newer engine that becomes carbon neutral.

But with all pros and cons of gas powered cars and electric cars, there is always an outlier, away from which is more affordable or which is better for the environment. This outlier is the reliability of electric vehicles. While this is still the beginning of electric vehicles integrating into the world, one thing to still consider is how reliable each car can be. This article of a consumer report by Aimee Picchi (2023), whom is a journalist with 15 years of writing and journalism, claims from a consumer report that electric car owners have more problems than people who own gas cars. They have frequent problems such as charging and battery problems as well as interior parts along side more. This is a massive inconvenience as a nearly reported 80% of increase in problems is a problem especially for newer owners and people with no mechanical knowledge whatsoever.

But at the end of the day, you should be able to buy a car on your own. I personally encourage the purchase of a gas-powered vehicle more specifically a brand from japan as they make cheap, luxurious and reliable vehicles that are great for driving no matter what age. But always keep a open mind to ideas as it is very important to see the world in a different light. Both electric vehicles and gas cars are great but personally, I believe that for now, gas powered vehicles are the way to go. This is more because I am willing to fix and build cars and my love for them but there are also reasons why I would want one over a electric car too.

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