

URL: <https://stvp.stanford.edu/clips/leadership-in-a-digital-world>

Toni Townes-Whitley, Corporate Vice President of Worldwide Public Sector and Industry at Microsoft, discusses the changing nature of leadership in the digital age. She cites statistics that estimate, by the year 2020, 5 million jobs will be replaced by automation and that the average person will have more conversations with robots than with their spouse or partner.



## Transcript

- The world that some of you will adopt or inherit as you walk out of these doors is a different world than many of us had 35 years ago, 30, 35 years ago, when we came out of doors like this.. When you just look at the sheer size of the population and what stress that will put on resilient, on infrastructure.. When you look at, for example, that smartphone's will eclipse landlines.. What does that mean for the network and the underpinning of smartphones, and how we talk about privacy for the data on those phones? When you start to look at the fact, how much data will be created? How is it stored? How is it accessed? What does it look like when that much data's being created for every human on the planet, every second of the day? Look, for many of us in my generation, we thought of the jobs we would have.. We actually started to map to the jobs we would have in high school and college.. We started to talk about our careers.. But we do have phenomena that is here.. And whether you call it cobot, which is the collaboration of bot and human.. Some of the new technology in term, terminology, but this idea of living in a mixed reality world is real, and it's coming, and it's here in some places.. What does that mean for jobs? What does that mean for displacement of jobs? What does that mean for people in categories that are right for displacement? And how are we insuring that technology has the dividend that we anticipate?..