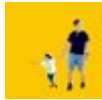


Twitter Thread by Trung Phan ■■



Trung Phan ■■

[@TrungTPhan](#)



Peter Thiel's 2014 Reddit AMA is full of nuggets ■

1/ His biggest investing mistake was **not** doubling down on Facebook

2/ Thoughts when he first met Elon



PeterThiel 🔑 6 years ago

Very smart, very charismatic, and incredibly driven -- a very rare combination, since most people who have one of these traits learn to coast on the other two.

It was kind of scary to be competing against his startup in Palo Alto in Dec 1999-Mar 2000.

↑ 254 ↓ Share ...

3/ Whether he has a "ban" on hiring MBAs



PeterThiel 6 years ago

1 no absolute ban, just think most MBA's tend to be high extrovert/low conviction people -- a combination that in my experience leads towards extremely herd-like thinking and behavior 2 yes, I think K-12 should give people enough skills to be able to contribute towards our society -- it is failing because it does not even come close to this

↑ 76 ↓ Share ...

4/ Why he invested in SpaceX



tianan 6 years ago

When you backed Elon Musk with SpaceX, was it because you believed in/knew Elon, thought space travel was important, or because you were looking for a return?

↑ 54 ↓ Give Award Share Report Save



PeterThiel 6 years ago

All three.

↑ 141 ↓ Share ...

5/ His reaction to the movie The Social Network



PeterThiel 6 years ago

The zero-sum world it portrayed has nothing in common with the Silicon Valley I know, but I suspect it's a pretty accurate portrayal of the dysfunctional relationships that dominate Hollywood.

↑ 388 ↓ Share ...

6/ Answer to his own famous question: "What is one thing you believe is true that most people don't"



PeterThiel 6 years ago

Most people believe that capitalism and competition are synonyms, and I think they are opposites. A capitalist accumulates capital, and in a world of perfect competition all the capital gets competed away: The restaurant industry in SF is very competitive and very non-capitalistic (e.g., very hard way to make money), whereas Google is very capitalistic and has had no serious competition since 2002.

↑ 178 ↓ Share ...

7/ Whether or not he'll invest in someone wearing a suit



PeterThiel 🔑 6 years ago

No absolute and timeless sartorial rules.

But, in Silicon Valley, wearing a suit *in a pitch meeting* makes you look like someone who is bad at sales and worse at tech.

↑ 95 ↓ Share ...

8/ On whether the Thiel Fellowship was a success



PeterThiel 🔑 6 years ago

Yes, on both a micro and a macro scale.

Micro: the 83 fellows have collectively raised \$63 million, and a number of their companies are tracking towards solid Series B venture rounds. Almost all of them did and learned far more than they would have in college.

Macro: we started an important debate about the education bubble. Student debt is over \$1 trillion in this country, and much of that money has gone to pay for lies that people tell about how great the education they received was.

↑ 212 ↓ Share ...

9/ His 2014 bull case for Bitcoin was around payments



PeterThiel  6 years ago

PayPal built a payment system but failed in its goal in creating a "new world currency" (our slogan from back in 2000). Bitcoin seems to have created a new currency (at least on the level of speculation), but the payment system is badly lacking.

I will become more bullish on Bitcoin when I see the payment volume of Bitcoin really increase.

 **190**  [Share](#) 

10/ Why don't wealthy people invest more in anti-aging tech?



PeterThiel  6 years ago

Most people deal with aging by some strange combination of acceptance and denial. I think the psychological blocks to thinking about aging run very deep, and we need to think about it in order to really fight it.

 **154**  [Share](#) 

11/ And here is the funniest answer



jcashdakid 6 years ago

Favorite rap artist?



48



Give Award

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Report

Save



PeterThiel  6 years ago

Ben Horowitz



224



Share



12/ Follow [@TrungTPhan](#) for other business gold (and a steady drip of dumb memes): <https://t.co/zpa0Roznhu>

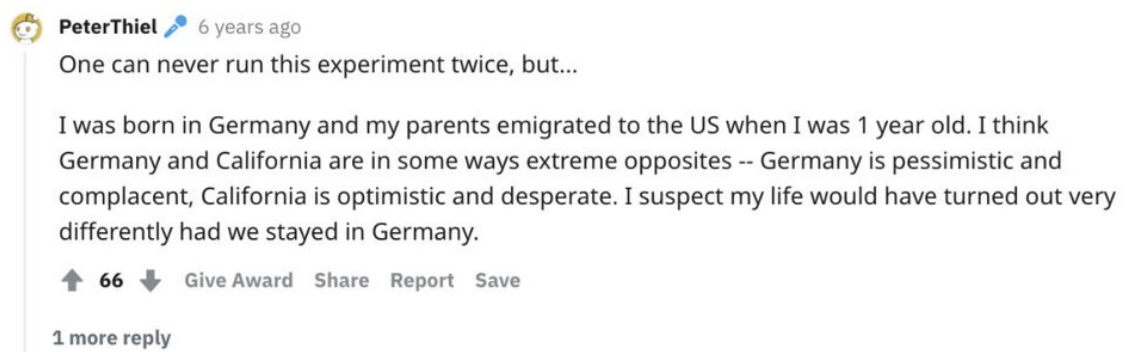
Tesla's next board meeting pic.twitter.com/EdA44xnbcp

— Trung Phan [\U0001f1e8\U0001f1e6](#) (@TrungTPhan) [May 9, 2021](#)

13/ Here is the original AMA (and, yes, I know some of the answers reflect his takes from "Zero To One"):
<https://t.co/0mZ1x1daRk>



14/ Totally forgot this one: Peter said his life would be very different if he grew up in Germany (where he was born)



15/ HUGE gaffe on my part: didn't include this incredible Thiel answer: <https://t.co/MjU0VhIKm5>

It is quite literally a crime, that you didn't include his single best zinger from that AMA.
pic.twitter.com/BDaPBuHE2Z

— Zefi (@zefi) [May 13, 2021](#)