In a few hundred years, when the history of our time will be written from a long -term perspective, it is likely that the most important event historians will see is not technology, not the Internet, not e -commerce. It is an **unprecedented change** in the **human condition**. For the first time—literally—substantial and rapidly growing numbers of people have choices. For the first time, they will **have to manage themselves**. And **society is totally unprepared** for it.