Daniela Amodei's Shaping of AI

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Entrepreneurs throughout recent decades have shaped society and paved the way for success in their respective fields. Their influence helps bring about ideas necessary for competition and innovation, bringing together inventions that meet the demands of society today. The computer science sphere of business has an overwhelming amount of competition due to the everchanging evolution of technology. Daniela Amodei is a renowned figure in this industry that is achieving distinctive milestones by utilizing the innovation of artificial intelligence, or AI. As President of the AI company Anthropic, she is a trailblazer bringing convenient tools to daily lives of online users. This paper will review the era that Amodei paved the way in, how she has been able to influence this era, her impact on today's society, her overall success, and my observations and opinions on her as an entrepreneur.

Daniela Amodei's career started in an era where technology was still dysfunctional and developing, meaning that there was genuine interest, but it still lacked some feasibility in society. She saw this as an opportunity working along with her brother, Dario, when she later began working at OpenAI as the VP of Research and with Google as a Senior Research Scientist, where they both prioritized safety for their developmental AI tools while still benefiting society. She also took on management roles that had an influence in her era, such as when she worked at the IRIS Center at the University of Maryland as Business Development where she helped form together employees for projects. Her management skills earned her a position at Stripe, which helped the company prosper from being small to having over 300 people (Kuzmenko, 2025). Due to her success after starting from small-scale, her career has brought an influence onto other AI entrepreneurs today. Her "people first" approach in which she prioritizes ethical usage of AI over monetary success has been influential in modern-day society of other AI system companies

(Jackson, 2024). She supports this by stating in a 2024 interview by First Block that "our research and safety focus was our primary emphasis," referring about her time at Anthropic. She also stated that "we have this view that safety is incredibly valuable and economically viable" (Notion, 2024).

Amodei continues to drive an impact on current society, where many entrepreneurs view the importance of utilizing AI ethically and understanding that limits need to be set between what AI vs. humans can do. While many companies strive for competition in providing improvised AI tool, Anthropic is improvising safety and ethics under Amodei's provision. Her safety and ethics approach are catering more to the current world of AI development as many of the issues she is addressing question the risks of AI. To be able to address the concerns of these policymakers, she hired the first ever AI welfare researcher into Anthropic, who will investigate the realistic portrayal of AI and the future ethical implications it has on society (Glover).

Anthropic and the usage of the new AI welfare researcher position has helped Amodei spring her success further, as the new welfare researcher position is in the first of its kind. It also provides the implication that other AI companies can join in with Anthropic and make similar positions to this to help combat and prevent the dangers of AI and overdeveloping it. Her success also lasts through the inspiration she has set for other entrepreneurs through her AI approach, who may be looking to set the same standards for AI ethics. She was able to establish this success in the first place by foreseeing the potential dangers that AI may have in the future, which allowed her to be unique to other entrepreneurs and attract policymakers due to her differential take on AI.

Some observations that I have taken from learning about Daniela Amodei is about her promoting the development of AI but also respects that it should not overcome humans in

society. We all understand that AI can potentially be dangerous because it can surpass what humans already do, but Amodei understands this issue which is why she takes the ethical approach to developing AI by foreseeing the future outlook and prioritizing the safety of humans first. AI tools also need to be tested for safety just like any other product before they are even implemented, which is why she does this. Unlike a lot of entrepreneurs who have spontaneous careers or build the desire overtime to start one, she seemed to have developed this kind of mindset naturally. Steven Levy's article "If Anthropic Succeeds, a Nation of Benevolent AI Geniuses Could Be Born" talks about how in their childhood, she and her brother would play games that were about saving the world (Levy, 2025). This can be found similar to how she prioritized the human role in society when working for OpenAI. She takes an approach that not many entrepreneurs would take otherwise if it was not for her inspiration in the industry. Because she has such a big influence, hopefully this leads to other entrepreneurs following in her footsteps developing AI ethically.

In conclusion, Amodei's inspiration has set an ethical standard for the AI industry. She started her career in an unstable era for technology when AI was uncertain. Soon, she realized the potential dangers of AI development while working at OpenAI and established her own ethical approach. Entrepreneurs have become inspired by her hard work in the industry, where they themselves take similar steps towards AI development as she does, which can positively impact the AI industry in the future. With her naturally born mindset of protecting human society from the overtake of AI, perhaps there will be a future where it can be incorporated safely with humans without worrying about these dangers.

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