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12/7/12

**Group Discussion: Friday, Dec 7 (15 pts)**

Grp Discussion: Friday, Dec 7th (15 pts)

1. Discuss the articles about language generation and provide a 1-2 paragraph reaction to this type of technology.
2. In what ways does your group think the internet and digitization can/will affect the way governments operate?  List and explain at least 3.
3. Read the article about the following from the "32 innovations that will change your tomorrow", and describe ways that you believe these will definitely impact our society.  Describe benefits AND potential ethical issues for each of these.
   * #10: Doctor on Board
   * #16: Your Body, Your Login & the Q&A "What innovation scares you the most these days?"
   * #21: The Mind-Reading Shopping Cart
   * #23: Teeth that Think
   * #24: Sleep Mining & the Q&A "What innovation are you clamoring for"?

1. I don’t know how I feel about computers having the ability to write up articles and what not. It really takes away the personal opinion of an author. And I think that creates a major issue about society as a whole. If we start enabling computers to do that not only will it take away jobs and the actual opinions of a real person but how far would go before computers are just controlling everything. If we enable computers to have the power to fill us in on the news, who’s to say it’s true. We can’t dumb down society to listen to everything a computer says. Not only has the use of viewing your news online dramatically changed how news is brought across to its users but how many people actually get there from there? A lot of people these days will rather watch the news then read it. And sadly, very people actually watch the news that matters…

2. Technology has been developing for centuries now and the way the government has operates has had to evolve for it. Personally I don’t think they’re evolving fast enough but that’s another topic. The internet really has made it easier for many different communication efforts. It’s far easier to have a conversation via the internet than it was 15-20 years ago. I also think the government has to be really careful not to step on peoples constitutional rights when it involves the internet. Of course the idea of something this powerful was not even imagined hundreds of years ago when it was originally written but I feel the rights we were given still apply now. And it should stay that way. The internet is an extremely powerful tool for anybody to create a movement and make a difference. When it comes to digitalization, I think it will make things much easier and far simpler. No longer will they have to print out hundreds of copies of a bill that’s 500+ pages long. Not only are they saving money and reducing waste but it also creates a much more accessible database.

3. #10) Doctor on Board. Unless this gets used for the wrong purposes, I feel it would be a very good tool in helping and determining the severity of an accident. However, accidents are totally unpredictable and although you may know how bad something could be what it if you arrive and its 100x worse. And then you are unprepared. #16) Your Body, Your Login. Well this kind of assumes you do it the same way every time in every situation. I don’t think this could be as easy to use for everything. And I would rather have a password that’s actually encryptable and if the case is needed allows others to use. Sure some things that we do things are done in a distinct way, but i wouldn’t feel comfortable with that being used as a method of unlocking something. #21) The Mind-Reading Shopping Cart. Well, beings I hate grocery shopping, I don’t think this is that terrible of an idea. I can’t say I like how it knows how healthy you are though. Like, what medical database is it pulling that from if you aren’t specifically telling it that you have some sort of condition. And if they can make the wheels on them better equipped for use it’d already beat out its worthless cousin. Plus skipping the checkout line and paying right there would be great as long as you have some form of a bagger or something set up. I can’t imagine the grocery store using these will allow you to be bringing them home. #23) Teeth That Think. I don’t like the idea of a sensor of any sort on my body. Or even in my possession. This goes back and replicates all the issues I have with RFID chips and the vast negative things they can do, or be used for. Also, I don’t think anybody that’s too lazy to take care of their teeth daily is willing to be replacing a sensor in their mouth daily as well. #24) Sleep Mining and Q&A. This is a prime example of another sensor that could easily be used in the wrong way. The information it potentially collects could be used in a variety of ways that could easily be used against someone. In the instances that it helps catch brain injuries or slow development then yeah, it is a great new tool but they have to be extremely careful and make sure that the people are doing are willing to do so. What if everyone was required to use this device and you have some crazy dream and it picks it up and reports to a law enforcement agency. Suddenly you get placed on a watch list and who knows what else. I don’t trust the information that’s in my brain to be knowledge to anyone but me. Why are we turning into a society that we need computers to tell us how to live or what to do? People have been on this planet for thousands of years and have been doing just fine without it. We’re getting lazy and letting other people control our lives. It’s nonsense to me!