Ethical Case Study Analysis

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Introduction

The case study we will be talking about over the course of this essay is pulled from a video by Fw:Thinking on YouTube titled "What is The Internet of Things?" The video discusses a hypothetical "living room of the future" in which technology changes and adapts our environment to suit our needs whether we consciously recognize them or not. All of this centers around the concept of the Internet of Things, which is described in the video as a collection of smart devices that collect information about the user and their environment, then send that data over the Internet for use by other smart devices or for other purposes. This can lead to some incredibly innovative technologies, although the data collection aspect has received a great deal of scrutiny, and for good reason. Various security and data privacy related issues need to be addressed before we let this get too out of hand, although it may already be too late. There are many ethical and policy implications with regards to this issue. We will discuss this case study and analyze the information presented in it alongside two other articles.

Analysis

The "Ted Ed" video from the YouTube channel Fw:Thinking and the articles on the Internet of Things and data collection provide valuable insights into the issues surrounding data privacy, security, and surveillance in the IoT landscape. The video emphasizes the need for thoughtful policies to govern the rapid growth of IoT devices, highlighting the challenges of securing billions of connected devices and managing the data they generate while also portraying the potential benefits and concerns surrounding the technology. It also raises questions about

data access and surveillance in the IoT context, suggesting that clear regulations and coordination are necessary to address these concerns.

The article on wearable technology offers practical examples of privacy challenges in the context of data collection and sharing, stressing the importance of transparent privacy policies and the consequences of sharing data through wearable devices. This article is pertinent to the analysis as it demonstrates that the issues raised in the case study are not entirely hypothetical but are indeed already manifesting in today's technology landscape.

Additionally, the article by Jack Karsten from Brookings provides insights into the broader policy challenges associated with the Internet of Things (IoT). Karsten discusses the need for coordination among various stakeholders to develop new IoT platforms and emphasizes the importance of securing connected devices from cyberattacks. He also highlights the critical issue of data access in the IoT, which is relevant to the case study's concept of a futuristic living room that identifies users and stores their preferences in the cloud.

To address the issues raised in the case study, it is essential to consider the ethical and information communication technology (ICT) policy implications. Firstly, there is a need for clear and comprehensive privacy policies for IoT devices, similar to what was recommend for wearables (Singer, R. W., & Perry, A. J., 2015). These policies should transparently communicate data collection practices and user rights. Secondly, ICT policies and regulations should be developed to govern IoT data security and privacy, ensuring that users have control over their data and are protected from potential misuse.

Implementing these recommendations involves collaboration between industry stakeholders, regulatory bodies, and technology developers. Ethical considerations should be

integrated into the design and development of IoT devices. User awareness campaigns should educate individuals about the implications of data sharing and empower them to make informed decisions about their data. Regulatory frameworks should be developed to oversee data privacy, security, and access in IoT, as suggested by Randi W. Singer and Adrian J. Perry in their article on wearable technology, and the policy recommendations from Jack Karsten's article.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the case study on the futuristic living room connected to the Internet of Things highlights many critical issues related to data privacy, security, and surveillance. The analysis of these issues, supported by the article on wearable technology by R. Singer and A. Perry, and the article from Brookings by Jack Karsten, underscores the relevance of these concerns in today's technology landscape. Critical thinking is an integral part of this analysis as it requires us to consider the ethical implications of data collection, user control, and data access, as well as the need for comprehensive ICT policies. By addressing these issues and implementing the recommended solutions, we can ensure that the Internet of Things evolves in an ethical and secure manner, benefiting users and society as a whole.

References

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