Ethics around AI

When looking at trustworthy AI we also must look at ethics. If we start by asking “you don’t have anything to hide, do you” we then look specifically at a problem surrounding artificial intelligence surveillance. The main problem with this form of surveillance is whether you will get pinged by the AI if you do something illegal. If the AI sends you a ticket for crossing the street when there is a red light or if it only pings you when you do a crime. The threat of being pinged without you knowing you did something illegal.

How will the data be stored and who has access to these is also a major concern for the public. If the data is only accessible by the government, it would provide the public with a feeling of security as help can reach you faster if needed. Yet the need for being anonymous, “the right to be let alone” (1) and the right to have control over information about oneself. Face recognition plays a quite import role here, as the ability to recognize humans, makes the progress of finding one specific person who committed a crime much easier. This is where the main benefit of artificial intelligence in surveillance comes from, since the officials would require lot less work if they could tell an ai to find a specific person in a crowd or other high populated areas.

If ai got implemented, it would save the government a lot of man hours and money. Also, it would help with putting the human resources to higher priorities. These could be all from social help to EMS, fire fighting and general police work. This would mean that the desperate needed help would be able to get to you faster. The ai is not here to replace humans, but to assist them and helping humans to do their jobs better and more efficient. If we can be more efficient, we can also do more work throughout the day. This would supplement an already busy work schedule for most on call help.

This of course doesn’t mean that ai is completely safe to implement. The ai itself works very well but we must keep in mind that the ai works out of the premisses of its creators. This means that the creator of the ai must have a neutral look at the world for the ai not to be stricter to a specific gender or colour. In the European commission it was presented a proposal that would regulate the use of ai at public spaces so the only ones who could use it would be government officials. The proposal also stated that there was a need for regulations around facial recognition.

1. <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/ethics-ai/>
2. https://www.politico.eu/article/the-rise-of-ai-surveillance-coronavirus-data-collection-tracking-facial-recognition-monitoring/