

## 18-500 Ethics Assignment

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### **Reading and Reflection**

1. He believes this because any effects that technology has on people will need to be regulated. These regulations are, of course, put in place through politics. An example of this in the text is Friedrich Engel's essay on developments in factory technology. Engel says essentially that while technological advancements bring benefits to production, it comes at the cost of people having to adopt a certain way of life with similar dedication to production.
2. One such technology is video surveillance cameras. These allowed people to obtain information about others that would have otherwise been impossible to know. The use of this enables blackmail, among other crimes that can be used to gain political advantage over others.
3. I am interested in VR/AR.
4. I think that the ideal users would be anyone who would like to experience an environment that they are unable to access. This could be anything from playing a video game to seeing the sun in a tropical country. This could also open doors for allowing people who are differently abled to experience life without any hinderances. For example, it could allow someone in a wheelchair to experience a hike through the woods.
5. The people who this might most hurt are the people who manufacture the technology. People in factories often do not have good working environments, contributing to poor health. Additionally, VR environments are another medium for cyber bullying, where there are still no consequences, but the bullying has the potential to be even more intense than what already exists.
6. It is difficult to say definitively whether this is a best- or worst-case scenario. On one hand, this type of advertising is good because it is better tuned to the audience's interests and desires. However, this technology could also be seen as

too intrusive or could encourage people to buy products that they cannot afford. Overall, I believe that Ad Empathy would be closer to a worst-case scenario.

## **Project Exercise**

Our project aims to assist people who are new to Korean Barbeque to have a streamlined and enjoyable experience with their peers, rather than having to stress about making sure the meat is being cooked properly. This will be done through a robotic arm which will handle the ingredients, and computer vision which will determine how long to cook each piece of meat. The people who would most benefit from this product would be people who are not confident in being able to cook the ingredients properly, whether that be due to unfamiliarity, distractibility, or any other reason. On the other hand, the people who would be most vulnerable to failure or misapplication would be people who like to touch their surroundings. The robotic arm may not be able to tell the difference between a piece of meat that is meant to be cooked and, say, a finger. In this case, the user may end up having their hand pinched and put on a hot grill. In an ethical sense, though, I am not sure I see anyone would be vulnerable to misapplication of this technology.