

# Simulation Data

## Introduction

Someday, your location, activity, mood, and thoughts could be continually monitored by an Internet of Things. Decisions made by you and others could be extensively informed by personal data about you. Decisions about your healthcare, education, the content of your work, your salary and benefits – decisions about everything – could be based on extensive data, because what you do produces a constant eruption of data that is increasingly collected, stored, shared, and analyzed.

## Procedure

1. Consider the future of 20 years from now and ponder what data will be available about you. Simulation might allow people to predict your behavior very precisely. A PG-13 movie, GATTACA, presents a future society in which a people receive education and employment based on predictions from genetic measurements. Brainstorm some of the societal issues raised by this idea.
2. Discuss some of these issues.

## Conclusion

1. The U.S. judicial system has generally given different treatment to two kinds of data collection: targeted collection and untargeted collection. Recording all phone conversations of a suspect in a crime, for example, is regarded quite differently by the courts than searching for keywords in all phone conversations of all Americans. Under what circumstances should an individual have the right to privacy, in your opinion?
2. Do we need new protections and expectations for privacy in response to our new ability to collect and analyze data?
3. The main character of the movie GATTACA, Vincent, has goals that the government views as unrealistic based upon his genetic data. Do you think data can ever tell the whole story about a person?