Location

- ☐ **Computer technology has increased:**
- • power and
- • scope

Surveillance devices	reducing size and cost	o Cameras o Locating devices

o **Global Positioning System (GPS) technology**
o **Satellite**
o **Computer chips**

  make it possible

- ☐ To track our movements and
- ☐ To determine a person's current location

Location

- For example:
  - If you lock your keys in your car, the car company can remotely unlock it for you with a radio signal
  - The car company can determine your location
  - The cell phones and other wireless appliances determine the locations of people using such devices

Location

- **Devices installed in rental cars:**
- **to locate cars, if they are stolen**
- **to monitor and track drivers**
- **A company sells *wireless watchband transmitters* for *children***
- **parents can monitor them**

All these are obviously useful for emergencies, but once the tracking technology is there, what else will it be used for?

Location

- ☐ Some worry about abuse by government:
- saying that the government's ability to *track and locate everyone* by accessing the wireless telephone provider's system
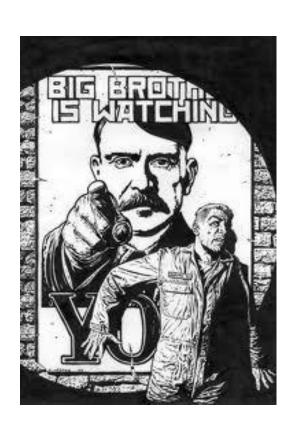- the rental car system and so on

These are threat to our freedom

Big Brother Is Watching You

Big Brother Is Watching You

Big Brother Is Watching You

- Big Brother (the government/employer) watched everyone virtually all the time via *telescreens* in all homes and public places

- Now a days, the government does not have to watch every move we make

- Because:

- Many of our activities leave data trails in database

Big Brother Is Watching You

❑ When Big brother wants to take a direct look at us and our activities:

- Uses sophisticated new surveillance tools

- *Uses some databases and tools by considering their capabilities with constitutional and legal protections from government institutions*

Big Brother Is Watching You

- Government databases help government agencies:
1. To perform their functions efficiently
2. To determine eligibility for government jobs and benefits program
3. To detect fraud
4. To recover payments on delinquent debts (e.g. students loan and child support payments)
5. To collect taxes
6. To catch criminals

Big Brother Is Watching You

- Fraud in programs:
1. Welfare
2. Medicare
3. Worker's compensations
4. Defaults on guaranteed student loan
5. NGO loans
6. *Restrictions on the **government's access to** and use of **Personal information** would encourage more fraud and waste.*

Big Brother Is Watching You

- The Privacy Act of 1974 and the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988 are two of the main laws that regulate the federal government's use of personal data

- Congress pass the Privacy Act of 1974 in response to abuses by the federal government in the 1960s and early 1970s

1. *Restricts the data in federal government records to what is "relevant and necessary" to legal purpose for which it is collected*

Big Brother Is Watching You

2. **Requires federal agencies** *to publish a notice of their record systems in the* **Federal Register** *so that public may learn about what databases exits*

3. *Allows people to access their records and correct inaccurate information*

4. *Requires procedures to protect the security of the information in database*

5. *Prohibits disclosure of information about a person with his or her consent*

Big Brother Is Watching You

- In 1960s and 1770s the FBI secretly used database of National Crime Information System (NCIS)
- To track the movements of thousands of people not wanted for any crime; many were opponents of the Vietnam War
- Other abuses include:
- Wiretappings
- Mail openings
- Burglaries
- harassment of individuals for political purposes
- questionable use of personal records