I'll be Back… Depending on my Programming

I, Alex Murphy, was in an extremely dangerous accident. The only way that the doctors could save my life was to augment my body with a complete body prosthetic. The prosthetic gave my body the strength of a robot, and the ability to process information at extremely high speeds. I am different from all other robots, because I am human. I can feel emotion, and I now have the choice on how to act upon it. Compared to other robots, I am inefficient and slow, which is a product of emotion and the instinct of self preservation. Robots without emotion will always be more efficient, but they cannot make decisions based on their morals, only their programming. If there is a combat situation, a robot with no emotion will act upon threat immediately. Imagine this scenario, there is a child with a knife, because of the programming in the robot with no reasoning, there is a threat detected. At that point the robot will act on program, causing deadly results. Same situation, a robot with emotion or a human would attempt to negotiate or simply be incapable of firing. A robot has no real threat of death, which means robots should never have to kill a person until said person begins to threaten human lives. A robot that has obtained emotion could possibly deviate from its own code and pursue its own ideas and thoughts. This attribute of emotion means that emotional robots cannot always be trusted to perform a task given because it may be morally wrong, which brings them down to the level of humanity, but it may also allow them to do the task more productively than before. Emotion interferes with given orders in a high stress situation. This could possibly allow for a robot that may be pursuing an enemy on the battlefield to let the enemy retreat or even help the enemy with medical responses.

Also from my perspective, there are several consequences to giving robots emotion. A robot with emotion may be able to decide it does not want to do good. A robot that has decided to commit crime or hurt people would be extremely difficult to stop, giving the robot intelligence and strength over its human counterpart. This being said, should we allow a robot to develop what it thinks is a deep emotional connection to humans when there really is not one. If a robot is given emotion, then they can be driven

towards mercy, but they can also be driven towards the persecution of certain groups or people. If a robot is programmed towards non-lethally stopping a threat, a robot with emotion may either hurt or kill certain people or groups out of no other reason than hate. Robotics may improve greatly from the introduction of emotional development, but it may cause extreme drawbacks in certain fields of robotics. Rather than ask ourselves when we will give robots emotions, but whether or not giving a robot emotions is the correct step to take.