Artificial Feelings

Journal Entry 315:

Recently, a study has been released concerning robots. Now, scientists can make robots feel pain. I believe this is a human emotion that robots should not have access to. Similarly, humans are no longer human without their emotions. I experienced being inhuman when I was controlled by Dr. Raymond Sellars after being mechanically enhanced. Without emotions, humans are no better than robots; when my humanity was stripped away from me, I no longer cared about anything except the tasks I was programmed to finish. Robots are machines with specific uses, such as in battle when human troops would not survive, but when given the capability to feel, it can be catastrophic because they do not have the ability to interpret situations and it would make them less efficient for their intended purposes.

Robots are made to accomplish tasks that are too tedious or physically demanding for humans. This includes repetitive actions or fighting in war. Robots do not need emotions for the jobs for which they are designed. Robots feeling pain will only decrease their efficiency. Rather than continuing their jobs, the pain will make them flee. Robots running away from their stations could end in the deaths of the people involved in that line of work. There are many other feelings which a robot should not be able to possess. Fear, love, sadness, anger, or any of the other emotions are specifically human. Not even animals, which are part of nature, have such a wide range of feelings. Feelings will only get in the way of a robot’s ability to be efficient. Efficiency will decrease the time and effort needed to complete a task and it is an important characteristic instilled in a robot.

Interpretation is an essential part of being human. Humans can interpret certain situations differently depending on the circumstances. Not only do humans have the ability to understand the state of things, but they can also choose what path they want to take. If a child is holding a weapon, a human could attempt to convince the child to relinquish the weapon. However, if a robot was programmed to shoot anyone holding a weapon, it would kill the child without feeling any regret. This lack of feeling is what differentiates humans from robots and robots cannot be given this attribute. No amount of programming can assess all the possible situations that can occur. It does not matter how many years of research that were used to develop the robot; it will always be artificial intelligence.



Robots should not be given emotions because they will only delay the robot’s programming. Emotions include feeling pain. Pain will cause mishaps and trouble in any robot’s occupation. Also, pain and emotion can decrease a robot’s efficiency in any line of work. The scientists attempting to create robots with feelings need to remember that robots are machines with certain uses in specific fields; robots are not human and cannot be programmed in any way to make them human.



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