From Man To Machine: My Personal Views As A Robocop

Giving robots emotion allows them the ability to make decisions. Some decisions are simple for example, the choice between picking X or O in a game of tic-tac-toe. Other decisions are complex such as the choice between forgiveness or continuous anger. Leaving the responsibility of choice to a robot that has little experience with being human sounds very risky. If a human has a hard time with choices, a robot with artificial intelligence would seriously struggle.

Since I have human emotions, I could break free from my programing and control my emotions. If robots had emotions, they could, in theory, also break free from their programming. Breaking free from programming invites the robots to rebel and do unpredictable stunts. Some of the bots that work with me for military purposes have one directive: to kill the enemy. They are equipped with deadly weapons that could eliminate someone in an instant. Imagine what one would do if it were not controlled by a person; it could attack whatever it wanted, and that is terrifying. Robots without weapons could escape their programmed limits and possibly be beneficial, but once the robot in question breaks its human dependency, would it be considered a citizen of the U.S.? Does emotion alone make the difference between a human and a machine?

Robots would not be considered as citizens of the United States because to legally be a citizen you must be born in the United States. Robots are not born, they are assembled. The real question is, “Will people accept having independent robots freely roaming the streets without programming to hinder them?” People would not enjoy the presence of robots on the streets because they are simply not human. They would be outcasts feared by some and hated by others. If robots gained emotions, they may feel excluded and hold a grudge against humans for excluding them from having rights. The robots could rebel and attack United States citizens thus presenting even more tension between humans and robots.

The software used to “correctly identify emotions with 80% accuracy” could help humans to better react to other humans, but unless the robot itself can convey emotions, they will never be able to “comfortably live and interact with robots.” Without that relationship, people would still see robots as lifeless drones instead of relatable companions. This technology is developing at lighting speed, so I would not be surprised if they find out how to give artificial intelligence emotions very soon.

Also, my criminal identification software has the information of every criminal in Detroit, Michigan, but the innovations in this passage could further that. The technology to “tell whether a person is a criminal just by looking at their facial features” could benefit my work as an officer exponentially. Instead of downloading more information that my software could handle about every criminal, this program could be installed to condense the information downloaded without changing the quality of my abilities.