Police Now, Robots Forever

In 2013, 105 police officers died in the line of duty. In just one year, over a hundred families had to deal with the loss of a brother, sister, mother, father, daughter, or son. These deaths were heartbreaking, tragic, and completely avoidable. The solution to prevent this needless loss of life lies in robots. They are able to fight crime in the same manner as the police, but there will be no body count at the end of the day. While the human police have their benefits, robots are cheaper, don’t suffer from fatigue, and are not susceptible to the negative effects of emotions, corruption or prejudice.

There are many costs to running a police department, including a financial cost. These cost include but are not limited to paying each officer a yearly salary. Robots, on the other hand, do not require payment. The only money that needs to be spent on them is maintenance costs, which are significantly cheaper than paying for the medical leaves, pensions, retirements, salaries and other costs associated with any police force. There are also significant legal costs associated with the police department. These include court fees and lawsuits. The use of humans can cost police departments billions of dollars every year compared to the use of robots.

Officers work in shifts, after which they go home to rest refresh. This leaves less officers to attend to crime that is being committed at the time when they are at home. Even officers that are on duty need breaks and get emotionally worn out. If robots are introduced to the department, they can operate efficiently twenty-four hours, seven days a week. They can do far more efficient work, since they do not get distracted and are able to work continuously. Therefore, the police officer’s inability to be available at all hours due to fatigue will no longer interfere with police work, if they are replaced by robots.

Human emotions directly impact how people act and work. This makes individuals susceptible to prejudices and biases. Human performance can be affected negatively by emotions such as anger, sadness, jealousy, fear, and a variety of others. Robots, however, do not feel these emotions, therefore their work can not be influenced. Their decisions will not be based on anger or sadness, it will be based purely on logic. In the police department, as well, officers can also be affected by a prejudices and bias toward suspects based on race, age, gender, social class, religion, and other factors. Robots, though, will take actions according only to the crime the suspect has committed. The police can also be corrupted and bribed, due to the fact that they have emotions. This corruption can lead to a shutdown of a department, which will eventually lead to a citizens being unable to trust their own law enforcement. We need look no farther than current events to see this. Robots, however, will not be swayed from their directive, protecting citizens, no matter how hard criminals try to persuade them.

Ultimately, robots are the next step in crime fighting and law enforcement. With robots, we can achieve a task force that is inexpensive, energetic, efficient and guaranteed to be on the side of the truth. With each robot that joins the police, we are saving not only money but lives.