

A09 Ethical and Societal Implications of AI

The use of artificial intelligence in predictive policing, as examined in a 2023 World Economic Forum report, explains profound ethical and societal challenges. Urban police departments use AI algorithms to forecast crime hotspots and technology to analyze historical crime data to guide resource allocation. Conversely, these systems often perpetuate bias as datasets reflect past discriminatory practices which overly target minority communities. This raises concerns about fairness because innocent individuals face heightened analysis based on flawed predictions. The societal impact is significant, lessening trust in law enforcement and deepening community divisions. Transparent AI design and regular audits are critical to mitigate these biases.

Privacy is another important issue. Predictive policing relies on extensive personal data including location and behavioral patterns which are often collected without explicit consent. These risks violate individual rights because residents could feel constantly being monitored. The lack of clear regulations governing data use further amplifies these concerns, leaving communities vulnerable to exploitation. Robust legal frameworks are needed to protect privacy and ensure accountability. Without them, public confidence in artificial intelligence led polices will continue to decrease.

The societal implications extend to accountability and governance. When artificial intelligence misidentifies crime risks, it leads to wrongful arrests. This then questions who takes responsibility. The developers, police, or the system itself. This uncertainty undermines justice and fuels public skepticism. Additionally, overreliance on AI may be depleted by officers, reducing human judgment in policing. Community engagement and oversight boards can help balance AI use with ethical considerations. In conclusion, the need for collaborative efforts to ensure artificial intelligence in regulating serves justice without compromising fairness or trust.

Neida Guzman
Professor Anna Devarakonda
ITAI 2372
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Works cited

World Economic Forum. "AI Governance: Shaping an Ethical Future." *World Economic Forum*, 2023, www.weforum.org/reports/ai-governance-shaping-an-ethical-future/.