Should facial recognition systems be regulated?
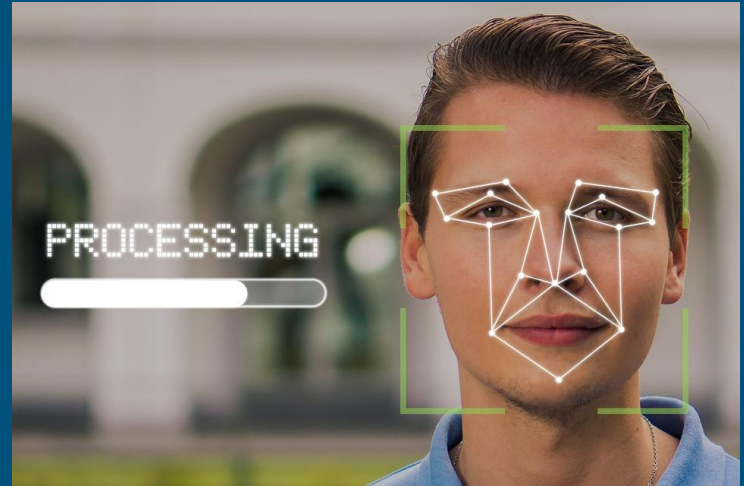
Pui Kuen Siu

What is facial recognition?

- A way of identifying or confirming someone's identity using their face
- Form of biometric security, other forms include voice recognition and fingerprint recognition

How facial recognition is used

- Unlocking Phones - most of us use face recognition to unlock phones, technology offers a more secure way to protect personal data if phone is stolen.

- Law Enforcement - LFR used to match people on a watchlist, officer is alerted once match is found and they compare the image to the person identified, before deciding whether to speak to the person.

- Border Control - Most major airports have eGates which uses facial recognition to help with passport checks

Police use of facial recognition

- Pros
  - Prevents crime/increasing safety
  - Reduces labor
  - Helps find missing people

- Cons
  - Breach of privacy
  - Mass surveillance
  - Possible data breach, face recognition data could fall into wrong hands

Regulations for Facial Recognition in policing

- Data Protect Act

- Human Rights Act

- Equality Act

- Protection of Freedoms Act

Opposition to facial recognition

- ## Case against South Wales Police

    Initially dismissed by High Court but Court of Appeal overturned decision.

    Found there was no clear guidance on LFR use

    Did not outlaw the use of LFR tech, deeming the benefits outweigh the human rights concerns

- ## Open letter to parliament from over 30 human rights organisations

    Use of LFRT by the police should be halted and banned as it poses significant risks to our society

    Police and the Home Office have, so far, completely bypassed Parliament on the proposed new national guidance for the use of LFRT

    Whether and how LRFT is used by the police

Should the police use Facial Recognition?
My thoughts...