

Scholars debate technology and civil liberty. According to Brownsword (2017), transforming the criminal justice system into a smart regime of social control threatens civil rights (p.107). The UN also believes that digital technology has worsened privacy infringement owing to human spying (United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, 2019). Technology may be a type of societal control that acknowledges other freedoms but undermines human rights. The growth of user-generated material on social networking sites has improved freedom of speech and association (Equality and Human Rights Commission, 2018). Thus, technology is influencing civil liberty.

Brownsword and Harel (2017) say liberty lets people decide right from wrong (p.107). New technologies enhance certain rights and freedoms while eroding, suspending, or limiting others (Petrina, Volk, and Kim, 2004 p.181). Technology's global spread suspends civil freedoms to give tech businesses power over their users. The emergence of networking platforms has also reduced rights since digital businesses don't need user authorization to collect data and monitor users (McLeod and Tanyi, 2021 p.1). Tech businesses and regulatory bodies' strict regulations have led to growing censorship and unconsented behaviors, which violate civil freedoms. Users suspend civil freedoms to utilize technological platforms.

References

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