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Article: [Racial Discrimination in Face Recognition Technology](#)

Synopsis:

Facial recognition algorithms employ machine learning to accurately identify people, but the current training databases have inherent biases against people who have dark skin tones and identify as women. The data consists of predominantly white men, leading to decreased accuracy for those not within that category. Additionally, camera settings used for facial recognition are also commonly low quality and not optimized for darker skin tones increasing the error in the algorithms even further. As the people being fed to these algorithms and in police databases are disproportionately people of color, this leads to constant incorrect charges based on a faulty algorithm with no human oversight.

The effects of these issues are so harmful that many tech companies have restricted their algorithms to non-law enforcement users, or even outright stopped their programs altogether until more legislative restrictions are put in place.[1]

Even with overwhelming flaws that can be seen with facial recognition algorithms, it still remains a very useful tool to many as it has many applications such as an assistive learning tool for those who may suffer from visual impairment.

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[1] Legislative restrictions can be put in place, but that wouldn't solve the problems with the algorithm inaccuracy. Companies need to change their sample data to solve their algorithm.