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<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-03-31/inside-the-little-known-japan-firm-helping-the-fbi-crack-iphones>

Even though this specific issue with the FBI wanting to crack iPhones is of little impact to me currently, this type of situation will come up more and more often and become more and more complicated of a topic in our near future. The FBI wants the information in a bad guy's phone, and they think they have the right to that information. They are in court with Apple right now because Apple refuses to code in a backdoor for the FBI. The reason Apple is refusing to do this is because they want to make sure their customers know that their private information is safe and not being looked at by the FBI. It is scary to think that important decisions in the future will be made which will directly affect all of our privacy and personal lives. I will prepare for this by limiting what private information I keep on any of my devices.

<http://www.albanydailystar.com/technology/pirate-bay-allowed-to-continue-operating-by-sweeden-court-flint-tech-day-12175.html>

Bit-torrenting has been a source of controversies across multiple industries for a number of years now. The Pirate Bay has somehow fought the battle to keep everything from music, to adobe products free for the masses for years now. Multiple of the leaders of Pirate Bay have been sent to prison in the past for their work in the organization, yet they keep fighting. The way this will affect me in the future is not actually related to bit-torrenting but more the freedom of information and data. No we should not cheat developers and tech companies out of many just because we can, but we should never have the information we want to share censored in any way. There is a balance we need to find between the two in the near future.

<http://www.telesur.tv/english/news/Fracking-Triggers-90-of-Large-Quakes-in-Western-Canada-20160330-0007.html>

Fracking is a major issue that has only recently begun happening. Fracking is shown to be absolutely terrible for the environment, which seemed to slow the use of it down minimally. But now that human lives will begin to be affected by earth quakes, hopefully regulations will be put into place. The saddest part about stories like this is that we probably will not see new regulation until a massive earthquake kills a large number of innocent people. I hope scientists will continue to study and gather information connecting fracking to earthquakes and overall negative effects on the environment and specifically on humans. This will definitely affect me in the future. And this is something I can only really prepare for by making sure I vote any chance I get against fracking in my area.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/war-on-drugs-has-made-no-difference-to-number-of-users-and-actively-harms-public-health-major-study-a6956836.html>

I think it is no secret that the war on drugs has been a failure from the get-go. Articles like this are almost saying something so obvious that you have to think “Duh”. But still the effects of the war on drugs negatively impact the lives of millions of people in this country alone. Then the indirect effects like the war on drugs fueling the cartels in Mexico come up. This will affect me in the future because big changes will be made to laws and regulations for many different substances. This article singles out cannabis, but I think all drugs should be decriminalized. The fact that we treat drug addicts as criminals is the source of a lot of drug problems in itself. To prepare myself, I just have to be cautious with who I associate myself with since public image can be hurt by association with drug-users.

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/this-student-put-50-million-stolen-research-articles-online-and-theyre-free/2016/03/30/7714ffb4-eaf7-11e5-b0fd-073d5930a7b7\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/this-student-put-50-million-stolen-research-articles-online-and-theyre-free/2016/03/30/7714ffb4-eaf7-11e5-b0fd-073d5930a7b7_story.html)

This story is very interesting to me because I can see the reasoning of both sides of an argument. On one hand, academic publishers should probably get paid for just putting in the research and allowing people to view their work, but on the other hand I would be interested in knowing how much progress has been halted or at least slowed due to the fact that these academic publications sit behind pay walls. I have personal experience with having trouble accessing certain publications just because a paywall was faulty. I think the freedom of information pertaining to academic papers is extremely important and needs to be re-designed for the modern world. Services that provide academic papers for free to all that request them will be an important part of the evolution of education as we know it. I don't need to prepare since it isn't a bad thing, but I think we should be conscious of the writers and make sure there is some way they can be compensated.