



Young Hong Kong Protestors Outwit The Surveillance State

Necessity is the mother of invention as wary protestors dumped recognizable social media accounts for VPNs and end-to-end encrypted messaging apps. Basically, nobody trusts China anymore. □ TN Editor

The moment the 25-year-old protester got home from demonstrations that turned violent - tear gas still stinging her eyes - she knew what she had to do: delete all of her Chinese phone apps.

WeChat was gone. So was Alipay and the shopping app Taobao. She then installed a virtual private network on her smartphone to use with the secure messaging app Telegram in an attempt to stay hidden from cyber-monitors.

“I’m just doing anything” to stay ahead of police surveillance and hide her identity, said the protester. She asked to be referred only by her first name, Alexa, to avoid drawing the attention of authorities amid the most serious groundswell against Chinese-directed rule in Hong Kong since 2014.

Protests that expanded over the past week against a bill allowing extraditions to mainland China were marked by something unprecedented: A coordinated effort by demonstrators to leave no trace for authorities and their enhanced tracking systems.

Protesters used only secure digital messaging apps such as Telegram, and otherwise went completely analogue in their movements: buying single ride subway tickets instead of prepaid stored value cards, forgoing credit cards and mobile payments in favor of cash, and taking no selfies or photos of the chaos.

They wore face masks to obscure themselves from CCTVs and in fear of facial recognition software, and bought fresh pay-as-you-go SIM cards.

And, unlike the pro-democracy movement in 2014, the latest demonstrations also have remained intentionally leaderless in another attempt to frustrate police, who have used tear gas and rubber bullets against the crowds.

On Saturday, Hong Kong chief executive Carrie Lam announced the postponement of the extradition bill, saying she hoped to return peace to the streets of the city. But the measure was not fully withdrawn and Lam still expressed support.

Protesters, meanwhile, have called for another major show of defiance on the streets on Sunday.

Amid the chaos, Hong Kong has offered a picture of what it looks like to stage mass civil disobedience in the age of the surveillance state.

“The Chinese government will do a lot of things to try to monitor their own people,” said Bonnie Leung, a leader of the Hong Kong-based Civil Human Rights Front.

Leung cited media coverage of Chinese use of artificial intelligence to track individuals and its social credit score system.

“We believe that could happen to Hong Kong, too,” she said.

The core of the protests is over the belief that Beijing - which was

handed back control of the former British colony more than 20 years ago - is increasingly stripping Hong Kong of its cherished freedoms and autonomy.

But the identity-masking efforts by the protesters also reflects deep suspicions that lines between China and Hong Kong no longer exist - including close cooperation between Hong Kong police and their mainland counterparts who have among the most advanced and intrusive surveillance systems.

“It is the fundamental reason people are protesting in the first place,” said Antony Dapiran, who wrote a book on protest culture in Hong Kong. “They don’t trust Beijing, they don’t trust their authorities and the legal system, and they don’t like the blurring of lines between Beijing and Hong Kong.”

For many who had taken to the streets over the past week, the fight was a familiar one.

In 2014, protesters occupied Hong Kong’s main arteries for 79 days demanding full universal suffrage in the territory. Prominent student leaders and activists marshaled up support night after night in mini cities that had been set up on Hong Kong’s thoroughfares, until they were eventually cleared out by police.

Today, all of the most prominent leaders of that movement - Joshua Wong, only a teenager at the time of the protests, legal scholar Benny Tai and Chan Kin-man, a sociology professor - are in jail.

The masses gathered around government buildings this week were without clear leaders. Demonstrators shared protest tips and security measures with people they had met just hours before to avoid a similar fate. Meetups were primarily planned on Telegram, which became the top trending app on the iPhone app store in Hong Kong in the days leading up to the protest.

“Information on personal safety was passed around on Telegram channels and group chats,” said Caden, a 21 year-old Hong Kong student in Indiana who returned home early to participate. When he among

estimated 1 million marching on June 7 to begin the protest movement.

On the group groups, Caden received a barrage of advice which included changing your username on Telegram so it sounds nothing like your actual name, changing your phone number associated with app and using SIM cards without a contract.

“We are much more cautious now for sure than in 2014. Back then, it was still kind of rare for the police to arrest people through social media,” Caden said, declining to give his full name for fear of retribution. “All of this is definitely new for most people there.”

[Read full story here...](#)



Unholy Alliance: When DNA

Meets Facial Recognition

Scientists believe that your DNA can be used to roughly predict what you look like in physical appearance, and vice versa and they are talking about using the technology in law enforcement to help solve crimes? □
TN Editor

Technology that was once only seen in dystopian science fiction is rapidly infecting real life. Two means of collecting personal data - DNA databases and facial recognition software - are forming an unholy alliance, and the privacy implications could be devastating.

Privacy concerns surrounding DNA and facial recognition aren't anything new. As the popularity of DNA genealogy websites like Ancestry DNA and 23andMe increase, so do questions over who has access to that data and how it will be used. The use of facial recognition and other biometric data technology is on the rise, and people are expressing concerns (and outrage) about that technology as well.

Genealogy sites have been making the news of late, mainly for concerns over how our personal data is used - and who has access to that information.

Recently, [GEDmatch](#), which has more than 1 million genetic profiles in its database, decided to stop providing information to police without user permission. Last month, the site faced criticism when it allowed Utah police to use the database while investigating a violent assault. "Prior to the change, GEDmatch had allowed police to use its data only for rapes and homicides," reports [Bloomberg](#):

The site is now asking users whether they want to allow police to access their DNA information. Previously, law enforcement could search profiles in the database unless a customer explicitly opted out.

Law enforcement agencies have increasingly relied on GEDmatch after it was used to find a man suspected of killing at least 12 people and raping scores of women in California between 1976 and

1986. A distant relative of the alleged Golden State Killer had uploaded DNA into GEDmatch. The genetic profile partially matched crime-scene evidence, indicating the person was related to the anonymous suspect who had eluded capture for four decades. From there, investigators built out that person's family tree, which led to the arrest last year of a 72-year-old former police officer. ([source](#))

Engineers are figuring out how to match DNA to faces in a database.

Now, DNA and facial recognition have merged, a development that is sure to ignite new concerns over privacy and how our most personal data is collected and used.

A team of engineers just built an algorithm that scans through a database of images and selects the faces that *could* be linked to the DNA found at a crime scene. Until now, predicting what someone's face looks like based on a DNA sample has eluded scientists. But, it is getting easier for them to use samples to filter the right face from a database, as an international team led by researchers at [KU Leuven](#) has shown. Their findings were published in [Nature Communications](#).

Our physical appearance (including our facial details) is hardwired into our genetic material. Scientists have already identified multiple genes that determine the shape of our face - from the distance between our nostrils to the shape of our chin. Some of that research was also conducted by a team at KU Leuven. Back in 2018, they identified fifteen genes that determine our facial features. In a related [press release](#), the researchers explained the technique they used:

In a new study conducted by KU Leuven in collaboration with the universities of Pittsburgh, Stanford and Penn State, the researchers adopted a different approach. "Our search doesn't focus on specific traits," lead author Peter Claes (KU Leuven) explains. "My colleagues from Pittsburgh and Penn State each provided a database with 3D images of faces and the corresponding DNA of these people. Each face was automatically subdivided into smaller

modules. Next, we examined whether any locations in the DNA matched these modules. This modular division technique made it possible for the first time to check for an unprecedented number of facial features.” ([source](#))

As of now, the ability to use that information to find a match between a DNA sample from a crime scene and someone in a DNA database does not exist, but it appears scientists are getting closer to making that a possibility.

In a press release, Claes, an electrotechnical engineer at KU Leuven and the senior and corresponding author of the new study, [explained](#) why that remains a challenge:

“We believe that the shape of our face is determined by thousands of genes, but also by the food we eat and other living conditions. Therefore, it is unlikely that we will ever be able to accurately predict a lifelike face from DNA alone.”

This technology could be used to solve crimes...or for less honorable purposes.

For forensic analysis and other applications, the ideal scenario would be to find a match between a DNA sample from a crime scene and someone in a DNA database. If the DNA doesn't match anyone in the database, however, it could still be used to predict what the perpetrator's face looks like and make a sketch. This sketch could then be compared to a database with the faces of known criminals, for example, [Claes said](#):

“This method mostly helps rule people out. In practice, we don't usually get any further than a sort of reference face, such as ‘a European male’. That's not much use to a forensic investigator. Unfortunately, while we are learning about more and more genes that determine certain aspects of our face, this does not yet sufficiently translate to a better match between the predicted face and the faces in the database.”

To overcome this obstacle, the researchers developed a “reverse

approach”, as explained in the [press release](#):

“Instead of going from DNA to face, we’re trying to go from face to DNA. Using special software, we measure each face and check if this face is a possible outcome based on a unique bit of DNA.”

“It then becomes a game of ‘guess who’. If the face is male and the DNA says it is a woman, all the men are eliminated. If the hair is blond and the genetic material confirms this, that eliminates all other hair colours. “

“The more genes we identify, the more accurate this method becomes, and it will only continue to improve as our knowledge of the relevant genes grows.”

So what if the face you’re looking for is not in the database? “Then you will at least have a list of faces that look a lot like the one you are looking for. Instead of a single reference face, such as ‘Asian female’, you will have a list of Asian females who are most similar to the person you want to find.” ([source](#))

If your face isn’t in a database yet, it likely will be soon.

For this technology to be useful, large face databases will be needed, such as ID card or driver’s license databases. Obviously, privacy issues are a huge concern. Claes acknowledges this fact. “Working with databases that contain private information such as DNA or faces requires strict supervision to prevent misuse,” he [said](#).

By 2021, [97% of travelers](#) will have their faces scanned. In some stores, “smart” [refrigerators](#) “analyze” your face and track your irises (but don’t worry – the company says they aren’t using true facial recognition). Amazon is developing software called [Rekognition](#) that can identify anything it’s looking at – including your face. Surveillance systems [are insidious](#), sneaking into our lives at every turn.

[Read full story here...](#)



Extensive Anthology That Refutes Man-Made Global Warming

Here is an extensive collection of articles debunking global warming and man-made climate change, by experts and scientists around the world. This collection is worth saving for the next time you are challenged for facts and authoritative sources. □ TN Editor

[What I Learned about Climate Change: The Science is not Settled](#)

[Countering The Fallacy Of Global Warming](#)

[Fifty Years Of Failed Apocalyptic Forecasts](#)

[The ever receding climate goalpost: IPCC and Al Gore “12 years to save the planet” \(again\)](#)

<https://jonova.s3.amazonaws.com/...>

[The Environmentalist Left Has to Grapple with Its Failed, Alarmist](#)

[Predictions | National Review](#)

[18 Spectacularly Wrong Apocalyptic Predictions Made Around the Time of the First Earth Day in 1970 - Frontiers of Freedom](#)

[Earth Day, 2019: Fifty Years of Apocalyptic Global Warming Predictions and Why People Believe Them, Part 1](#)

[Al Gore's 2007 prediction that all arctic ice would be gone by 2014 now proven to be alarming fear mongering](#)

[Deja Vu: Media Again Warn Only 10-12 Years for Climate Action](#)

[Apocalypse Delayed | National Review](#)

[Credit Rating Agencies and 'Climate Change' More absurd predictions](#)

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[Prominent French Scientist Reverses Belief in Global Warming - Now a Skeptic](#)

[The U.N.'s Global Warming War On Capitalism: An Important History Lesson](#)

[How UN Scientists Are Preparing For The End Of Capitalism](#)

[Climate change: this is the worst scientific scandal of our generation](#)

[Climategate 2.0: New E-Mails Rock The Global Warming Debate](#)

[Climategate 2.0](#)

[How to Discuss Global Warming with a "Climate Alarmist." Scientific Talking Points to Win the Debate.](#)

[More Than 1000 International Scientists Dissent Over Man-Made Global Warming Claims - Global Research](#)

<http://www.populartechnology.net...>

[Leading Scientists Debunk Climate Alarmism | David J. Theroux](#)

['Global warming is not a crisis!': Studying climate change skepticism on the Web](#)

[Climate Change Is Real. Too Bad Accurate Climate Models Aren't.](#)

[Flawed Climate Models](#)

[New Paper: Computer Predictions Of Climate Alarm Are Flawed](#)

[World's top climate scientists confess: Global warming is just QUARTER](#)

[Climate Scientist: 73 UN Climate Models Wrong, No Global Warming in 17 Years](#)

[What You Never Hear About Global Warming — Sott.net](#)

[Satellites and Global Warming: Dr. Christy Sets the Record Straight](#)

[An interesting plot twist - call it an anomaly](#)

[Updated Global Temperature: No global warming for 17 years, 6 months - \(No Warming for 210 Months\)](#)

[No global warming at all for 18 years 9 months - a new record - The Pause lengthens again - just in time for UN Summit in Paris](#)

[How NOAA/NASA Doctored Temperature Data To Get Record Warm Years | PSI Intl](#)

[100% Of US Warming Is Due To NOAA Data Tampering](#)

[The fiddling with temperature data is the biggest science scandal ever](#)

[BREAKING: NOAA Fiddles With Climate Data To Erase The 15-Year Global Warming 'Hiatus'](#)

[Massive Data Tampering Uncovered At NASA - Warmth, Cooling Disappears Due To Incompatibility With Models](#)

[Climate scientists versus climate data](#)

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[Should Michael 'Hockey Stick' Mann be Prosecuted for Climate Fraud? | PSI Intl](#)

[Climatology Sees One Of The Greatest Scientific Reversals Of All Time - The Rise And Fall Of The Hockey Stick Charts](#)

[Doubling The Hockey Stick Fraud](#)

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[IPCC HOCKEY STICK CURVE DEBUNKED STILL FURTHER](#)

[17 New \(2017\) Scientific Papers Affirm Today's Warming Is Not Global, Unprecedented, Or Remarkable](#)

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[The Disgraceful Episode Of Lysenkoism Brings Us Global Warming Theory](#)

[What consensus? Less than half of climate scientists agree with the IPCC "95%" certainty](#)

<https://www.friendsofscience.org...>

[Oregon Petition \(1998\) Signed by 31,000+ Scientists and Experts](#)

['97% Of Climate Scientists Agree' Is 100% Wrong](#)

[97 Articles Refuting The "97% Consensus" | Climate Dispatch](#)

[The 97 Percent Solution | National Review](#)

[The Myth of the Climate Change '97%'](#)

[Cook's 97% Scam Debunked](#)

[97% Consequential Misperceptions: Ethics of Consensus on Global Warming](#)

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[Curry Report: Sea-level rise within natural variation of past several thousand years](#)

[New Paper: Antarctic Sea Ice Growing, Not Shrinking](#)

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[Ocean Acidification Claims are Misleading - and deliberately so | PSI Intl](#)

[Ocean Acidification is a lie](#)

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[Ignore The Scare-Mongers: Number & Intensity Of US Hurricanes Have Remained Constant Since 1900 - The Global Warming Policy Forum \(GWPF\)](#)

[Does CO2 correlate with temperature history? - A look at multiple timescales in the context of the Shakun et al. paper](#)

[The Greenhouse Effect Fallacy](#)

[Falsification Of The Atmospheric CO2 Greenhouse Effects Within The Frame Of Physics](#)

[The fallacy of the greenhouse effect](#)

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[Last 100 Years of CO2 & Temperatures: The IPCC's HadCRUT Data Confirms CO2's Small Impact On Global Warming](#)

[CO2 Science](#)

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[The 800 year lag in CO2 after temperature - graphed](#)

[New research in Antarctica shows CO2 follows temperature "by a few hundred years at most"](#)

[Non-Existent Relationship ...CO2-Temperature Correlation Only 15% Of Last 165 Years](#)

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[Editorial bias and the prediction of climate disaster: the crisis of science communication](#)

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[Science Is In Deep Trouble, New Paper Shows](#)

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[The inconvenient truth about the Ice core Carbon Dioxide Temperature Correlations](#)

[Alleged Correlation between CO2 and Global Warming](#)

[Miami Herald: Search Results](#)

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Here are a few useful websites/blogs:

[Watts Up With That?](#)

[The Global Warming Policy Forum \(GWPF\) - Common Sense on Climate Change](#)

[JoNova](#)

[Climate Change Archives](#)

[climate science](#)

[Global Climate Scam](#)

[Climate Depot](#)

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[Welcome](#)

[The Deplorable Climate Science Blog](#)

[“Not here to worship what is known, but to question it” - Jacob Bronowski. Climate and energy news from Germany in English - by Pierre L. Gosselin](#)

Youtube videos:

For light-hearted: [Dilbert on Climate Change](#)

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The
**ROCKEFELLER
FOUNDATION**

Rockefeller Foundation: The Rise, Fall And Rebirth Of 100 Resilient Cities

The UN's term "Resilient" means anything you want: "improving mobility", "breaking down structural racism", "any social and infrastructural fault line", "predictive analysis" and even weather forecasting. Thus, it is a catchall term for implementing the New Urban Agenda and the 2030 Agenda, aka Technocracy. □ TN Editor

In late April, at a town-hall meeting in New York City, Raj Shah, the president of the Rockefeller Foundation, addressed the staff of 100 Resilient Cities. The nonprofit, launched by the philanthropy in 2013, has helped cities around the world plan for natural disasters and social shocks, especially the ravages of climate change.

Earlier that month, the foundation had abruptly announced plans to shutter the program. Now Shah was explaining why.

"This is not about whether 100 Resilient Cities works," Shah said. "It's a shift in the foundation's focus to delivering measurable results for vulnerable people ... with a budget framework that works."

In a video recording later viewed by CityLab, a few people who dialed in from satellite offices were broadcasted at the bottom of the screen, their expressions grim. By August 1, the organization's 86 employees would be out of a job. In city halls around the globe, officials who'd come to rely on their support wondered how they'd keep climate-prep initiatives afloat, including the hiring of hundreds of "resilience officers."

But now plans are being hatched to advance some of 100RC's work beyond its expiration date. Last week, the nonprofit's president, Michael Berkowitz, told staff that he and a group of soon-to-be-former 100RC officers were preparing to start a new nonprofit with the mission of helping cities implement resilience projects.

What's more, the Rockefeller Foundation has confirmed that it may keep some elements of the 100 Resilient Cities program alive.

These are significant turns of events from just a few weeks ago, when the future of 100RC looked bleak, despite its well-regarded status in climate-planning circles. For local governments, the whiplash may be a reminder of the risks of relying on private dollars to create public policies.

Established in 2013 by the Rockefeller Foundation in the wake of Hurricane Katrina and Superstorm Sandy, 100 Resilient Cities was born out of the idea that local governments needed help planning for disasters and combating persistent social maladies. Across a network of more than 100 global member cities—from New York to New Orleans, Rome to Ramallah, Montevideo to Montréal—the group underwrote salaries for [chief resilience officers](#), shepherded resilience plans, and supplied local leaders with ideas, financing, and technical assistance.

While the nonprofit was best known for climate adaptation plans, its work encompassed much more. For example, in Boston, leaders defined resilience as breaking down structural racism. In Panama City, it was about improving mobility. A city became "resilient" by identifying virtually any social and infrastructural fault line that a shock might expose. Change was measured on a long-term basis. In contrast to other nonprofits that give grants for specific projects, the 100RC model was

unusually flexible.

[Read full story here...](#)



Leaked: How Facebook Determines 'Hate Agent' Status

The reason that Big Tech censorship seems so disjointed is because it is. Facebook gathers data about you from online and offline sources, determines all your associations, what posts you share, who you interview, who you 'Like' and then slaps you with a hate score. Once tagged as a 'Hate Agent', the designation will blacklist you for years to come. Once shared with other Big Tech companies, your blacklisting will become universal. □ TN Editor

Facebook monitors the offline behavior of its users to determine if they should be categorized as a “Hate Agent,” according to a document provided exclusively to Breitbart News by a source within the social media giant.

The document, titled “Hate Agent Policy Review” outlines a series of “signals” that Facebook uses to determine if someone ought to be categorized as a “hate agent” and banned from the platform.

Those signals include a wide range of on- and off-platform behavior. If you praise the wrong individual, interview them, or appear at events alongside them, Facebook may categorize you as a “hate agent.”

Facebook may also categorize you as a hate agent if you self-identify with or advocate for a “Designated Hateful Ideology,” if you associate with a “Designated Hate Entity” (one of the examples cited by Facebook as a “hate entity” includes Islam critic Tommy Robinson), or if you have “tattoos of hate symbols or hate slogans.” (The document cites no examples of these, but the media and “anti-racism” advocacy groups increasingly label innocuous items as “hate symbols,” including a [cartoon frog](#) and the “OK” hand sign.)

Facebook will also categorize you as a hate agent for possession of “hate paraphernalia,” although the document provides no examples of what falls into this category.

The document also says Facebook will categorize you as a hate agent for “statements made in private but later made public.” Of course, Facebook holds vast amounts of information on what you say in public *and* in private — and as we saw with the *Daily Beast* doxing story, the platform will [publicize](#) private information on their users to assist the media in hitjobs on regular American citizens.

Breitbart News has already covered some of the individuals that Facebook placed on its list of potential “hate agents.” Paul Joseph Watson eventually was categorized as “hateful” and banned from the platform, in part, according to the document, because he praised Tommy Robinson and interviewed him on his YouTube channel. Star conservative pundit [Candace Owens](#) and conservative author and

terrorism expert [Brigitte Gabriel](#) were also on the list, as were [British politicians](#) Carl Benjamin and Anne Marie Waters.

The Benjamin addition reveals that Facebook may categorize you as a hate agent merely for speaking neutrally about individuals and organizations that the social network considers hateful. In the document, Facebook tags Benjamin with a “hate agent” signal for “neutral representation of John Kinsman, member of Proud Boys” on October 21 last year.

Facebook also accuses Benjamin, a classical liberal and critic of identity politics, as “representing the ideology of an ethnostate” for a [post](#) in which he calls out an actual advocate of an ethnostate.

In addition to the more unorthodox signals that Facebook uses to determine if its users are “hate agents,” there is also, predictably, “hate speech.” Facebook divides hate speech into [three tiers](#) depending on severity and considers attacks on a person’s “immigration status” to be hate speech.

Here’s how “hate speech” — both on and off Facebook — will be categorized by the platform, according to the document:

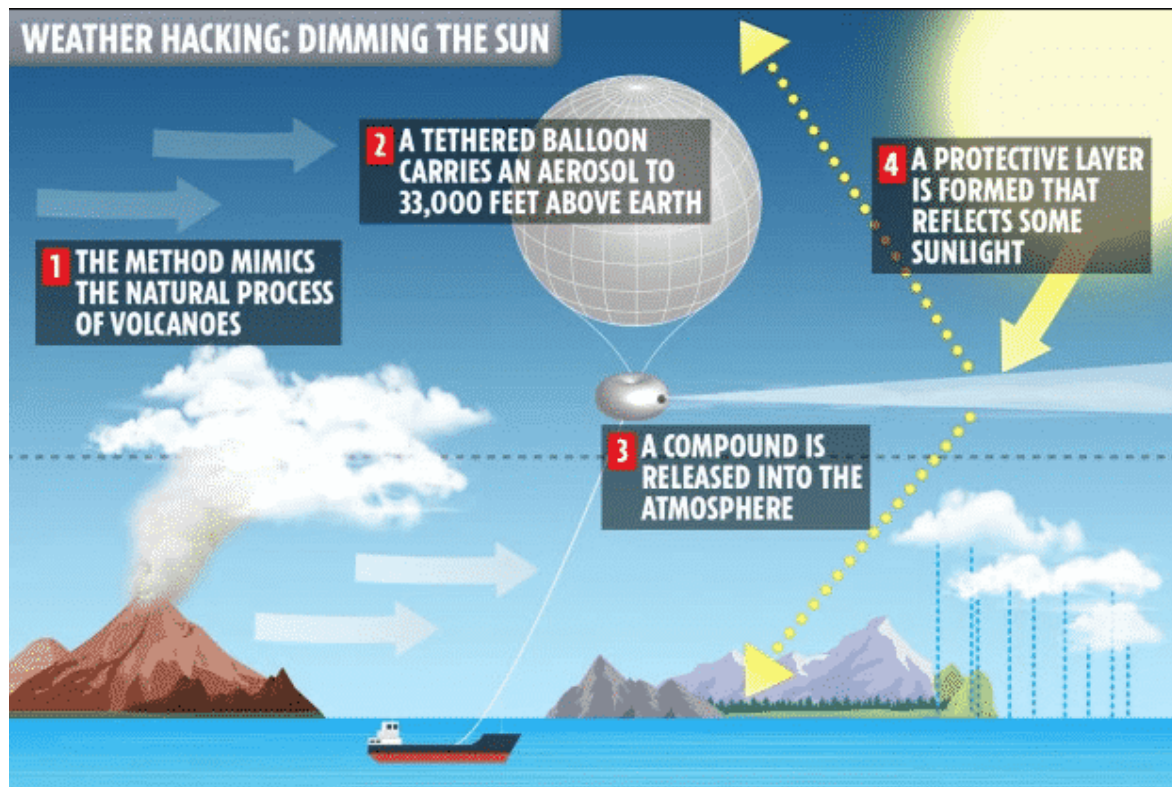
Individual has made public statements, or statements made in private and later made public, using Tier 1, 2, or 3 hate speech or slurs:

3 instances in one statement or appearance = signal

5 instances in multiple statements or appearances over one month = signal

If you’ve done this within the past two years, Facebook will consider it a hate signal.

[Read full story here...](#)



Geoengineering Could Start WWII As Nations React

Weaponizing weather has been a military goal since WWI, but as global warming hysteria proceeded, it was used to 'cool' the earth. However, weather does not respect national borders and what one country does can radically affect the weather in its neighbors. □ TN Editor

Climate change may end up causing World War 3 if individual countries start to try and save themselves by hacking the weather with a process called geoengineering.

Many experts are in favour of geoengineering, which involves manipulating the atmosphere by blocking sunlight or isolating excess carbon, but weather hacking in one region could have negative impacts in another and lead to global conflict, according to scientists.

It is solar geoengineering that appears to be the most problematic and not so much carbon capture because solar geoengineering would involve spraying chemicals into the air that would block some sunlight.

When speaking on the sun blocking topic, geoengineering researcher Juan Moreno-Cruz told [Business Insider](#): “The threat of war never is out of the question.”

If geoengineering is going to happen then all countries would have to be informed and agree because some areas may be more negatively effected than others.

Andrea Flossmann, a scientist at the World Meteorological Organization, explained in a [WMO report](#): “The atmosphere has no walls. What you add may not have the desired effect in your vicinity, but by being transported along might have undesired effects elsewhere.”

Earth’s temperatures are set to soar to dangerous levels so a lot of scientists think the unknown consequences of geoengineering are worth the risk.

The worse case scenario is that Earth’s atmospheric chemistry is irreversibly altered and causes freak weather conditions like monsoons, hurricanes and heatwaves that could kill thousands and increase global tensions.

[Read full story here...](#)



Bills To Require Breathalyzers In Cars, Mandatory Mental Health Assessments

Progressive liberal Democrat Rep. Kathleen Rice (D-NY) introduced two bills that have serious Constitutional implications. Her bills will encourage law enforcement into a police-state mentality that will be impossible to undo. □ TN Editor

If you thought the TAPS Act was bad, wait until you read this.

Our politicians are hard at work introducing bills that promise to turn America into a mirror image of China.

Rep. Kathleen Rice's H.R. 3374 bill, otherwise known as the End Drunk Driving Act, would put breathalyzers and ignition interlock devices in every new car.

According to the LI Herald, Rice wants to force auto manufacturers to put breathalyzers and ignition interlock devices in new cars by 2029.

“The End Drunk Driving Act would mandate that, within 10 years, all cars sold nationwide come equipped with technology that would detect a driver’s blood alcohol content and prevent the vehicle from moving if it is above the legal limit.”

With close to 280 million cars in the U.S. and over 226 million drivers licenses, nearly every American would be affected by this and other bills.

If Rice’s bill is passed it would effectively turn 226 million people into suspects.

SEC. 3. Advanced Technology To End Drunk Driving:

(a) In General.—Not later than 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue a final rule prescribing or amending a Federal motor vehicle safety standard that would prevent operation of a motor vehicle when the operator is under the influence of alcohol. The standard—

(1) shall prevent the operation of the motor vehicle if the operator’s blood alcohol content is above the legal limit; and

(2) shall require such technology to be—

(A) reliable and accurate;

(B) set at the legal limit;

(C) unobtrusive and fast;

(D) tamper-proof/circumvention-resistant;

(E) functionary in extreme environments (both hot and cold); and

(F) easily maintained.

If Rice’s bill becomes law, then motorists in Utah, who have consumed one alcoholic beverage would not be allowed to drive.

As I reported last year, at least six states are considering criminalizing consuming one alcoholic beverage. Earlier this year, Michigan expressed their desire to do the same, bringing the total to seven states.

Rice's plans for law enforcement and accused drunk drivers will leave your head spinning in disbelief.

Rice's H.R. 7099 bill, otherwise known as the Prevent Impaired Driving Child Endangerment Act would force anyone convicted of a DWI with a child in the car, to undergo a mental health assessment.

The LI Herald states that every state would force law enforcement to give drivers mental health assessments or lose federal funding.

"Offenders would also be required to undergo an alcohol, substance abuse and mental health assessment and receive treatment if necessary. The case would be added to state child abuse registries and states that fail to comply could have certain federal funding withheld by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation."

Rice's claim that only motorists who have been convicted of DWI will be given mental health assessments is a lie. Why? Because it is already happening.

For the past three years, Police officers in Texas have been giving everyone they arrest, a mental health assessment.

"Once at jail, anyone who is arrested will be screened for mental illness. The jail will send those results to judges to consider when setting bond. The county will also start using a risk assessment tool to arrive at an estimated level of danger and flight risk posed by each defendant."

H.R. 7099 would turn America's police into psychologists with unimaginable powers.

"(D) A law that—

"(i) requires the individual, if convicted of the offense, to undergo an alcohol abuse, substance abuse, or mental health assessment; and

“(ii) if the assessment indicates a need for treatment, authorizes the appropriate court (or monitoring agency) to require the individual to undergo treatment as part of the individual’s sentence in connection with the conviction or as a condition for reissuance of a State driver’s license to the individual.

And if that wasn’t bad enough, Rice’s bill would turn drunk drivers into instant child abusers.

“(E) A law that requires, if the individual is convicted of the offense and is the parent, guardian, or custodian of the child passenger or is otherwise legally responsible for the child passenger, the law enforcement agency that charges the individual with the offense or the appropriate court to file with the appropriate State register of child abuse a report on the individual concerning the offense.

Turning people into instant child abusers for having one alcoholic beverage or being judged mentally unfit by law enforcement is appalling.

The TAPS Act, the End Drunk Driving Act and the Prevent Impaired Driving Child Endangerment Act are all indicators that America is headed down a dark and dangerous road.

[Read full story here...](#)



Self-Driving Cars Could Disrupt The Airline Industry

Technocrats who promised that their self-driving cars would solve major urban transportation problems never thought the overall consequences of their actions. Airlines may be disrupted and studies have already shown that urban congestion is increasing, not decreasing. □ TN Editor

As driverless cars [become more capable and more common](#), they will change people's travel habits not only around their own communities but across much larger distances. Our research has revealed just how much people's travel preferences could shift, and found a new potential challenge to the airline industry.

Imagine someone who lives in Atlanta and needs to travel to Washington, D.C., for business. This is [about a 10-hour drive](#). A flight

takes about two hours, assuming no delays. Add to that the drive to the airport, checking in, the security line and waiting at the gate. Upon arrival in D.C., it may take another 30 minutes to pick up any checked bags and find a rental car—and even more time to drive to the specific destination. The average person would estimate a total travel time of [four to five hours](#). Most people would choose to fly instead of driving themselves.

However, if they could [have a fully driverless car](#) take them there, the choice changes. Passengers could eat, drink, work and sleep during the 10-hour drive. They could leave whenever they want, and pack whatever they want—including liquids and pocketknives—with no searches or scans. When they get to D.C., they wouldn't have to find a rental car and navigate to the actual place they're going.

Which would you choose? Now imagine the self-driving car has a reclining seat with actual legroom, or even a bed. It's more than a little tempting.

What do consumers say?

As [experts](#) in [public opinion research](#), we know that the American public [loves how quickly flights can cover large distances](#), but [hates the security checks, long lines, delays, risk of losing baggage](#) and overall hassle of the flying experience.

We also know that at the moment, most people are reluctant to ride in driverless vehicles—[including school buses](#) and [even ambulances](#) that could speed their treatment in an emergency. However, our data also shows that [as people learn about the benefits of driverless cars](#), they become more accepting of the new technology. Over time, people will feel comfortable using autonomous cars (and ambulances), just like they adjusted to riding in the first automobiles.

A future with driverless cars means people will have more options to avoid driving on their own, beyond trains and buses.

[In our study](#), we showed people trips of different lengths and asked them to choose whether they would rather drive themselves, take a flight or

ride in a self-driving car. In general, the data indicated that people always preferred driverless vehicles over manual driving. Taking a driverless car [got even more attractive](#) if people were told that after flying, they would need a rental car in their destination city.

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Psychology Today: Sex Robots And The End Of Civilization

With demographics already tanking in all Western nations, adding sex robots into the mix virtually guarantees to accelerate the trend and cause relationship dysfunction across the board. □ TN Editor

Imagine this: A totally realistic robot of your own design that is capable of fully carrying out any [sex](#) act that you can dream up. It looks, smells, and sounds incredibly realistic. And your state-sponsored insurance paid for her in full. In effect, she was free—prescribed by your physician to help with your status as officially “sexually dysfunctional.” Recent federal legislation, supported overwhelmingly by a male majority in the

House and Senate, has made this kind of medical prescription perfectly legal.

Robin the Robot never has a headache. It never gets a cold. It never rejects an advance. It is, perhaps strangely, beautiful in many respects. And, surprisingly, it is even seemingly [intelligent](#) and witty.

Sure, it sounds great on the surface.

And get this: According to expert clinical psychologist and sex therapist [Dr. Marianne Brandon](#), what I've described above is, in fact, a likely portrait of our near future. Welcome to the new world.

Sex Robots as Supernormal Stimuli

Earlier this month, I was fortunate to attend a special symposium on understanding mental health from an evolutionary perspective. This event, formally sponsored by the Applied [Evolutionary Psychology](#) Society ([AEPS](#)) and affiliated with the NorthEastern Evolutionary Psychology Society ([NEEPS](#)), was eye-opening for the many scholars, practitioners, and students who were in attendance. And while all of the talks were provocative and engaging, I have to say that Dr. Brandon's presentation was something of a show-stopper.

When you think about things from an evolutionary perspective, the history of human technology largely becomes the history of developing supernormal stimuli for profit.

In the 1950s, renowned behavioral biologist Niko Tinbergen articulated the idea of a *supernormal stimulus*. A supernormal stimulus is essentially an exaggerated, often human-made version of some stimulus that organisms evolved to respond to in certain ways.

For instance, humans evolved taste preferences so as to desire high-fat foods because our ancestors regularly experienced drought and famine. A Big Mac is a human-created product that includes an amplification of high-fat food that would have been beyond the fat and caloric content of nearly any food that would have existed under ancestral human conditions. The Big Mac is a classic supernormal stimulus.

Same with [pornography](#). And video games. And so many cosmetic products that amplify attributes of faces and bodies that bear on Darwin's bottom line of reproductive success. Vibrant hair color and lip gloss are supernormal stimuli.

Importantly, as you can see, supernormal stimuli may well be deceitful. In the modern world of humans, supernormal stimuli are essentially hijackers. They are human-created technological products that hijack our evolved psychology in a way that leads to short-term emotional and/or physiological benefits. However, since these products are, at the end of the day, evolutionarily unnatural, they quite often do not lead to the long-term evolutionary benefits (such as strong connections with others and/or long-term reproductive gains) which pertain to why these stimuli evolved to be desired by humans in the first place. We can call this *evolutionary irony*.

In her presentation, Dr. Brandon rightfully pointed out that sex robots, when they arrive (and they will), will be the ultimate in human-created supernormal stimuli. And this could be a problem.

Potential Problems Associated with the Sex Robot Revolution

Is there a sex robot revolution on the horizon? In a few weeks, the city of Brussels will host the [4th International Conference on Love and Sex with Robots](#), so you tell me!

In her presentation at the AEPS symposium, Dr. Brandon made a strong case suggesting that sex robots are truly in development and on the way. Perhaps in a decade or two.

Brandon pointed out several potential problems that may well come along with the robots for the ride. These problems all make sense when we think of our evolved relationship psychology. Some of the potential problems that she pointed out are as follows:

- Men, who are disproportionately represented as consumers of pornography, will likely be over-represented as consumers of sex robots.
- Within committed relationships, sexual interactions, which are

apparently already on a nationwide decline, are likely to drop further in prevalence.

- [Intimacy](#) in relationships, which strongly maps onto both quantity and quality of sexual interactions within mateships, is likely to drop in quality as well.
- The prevalence of [marriage](#) and birth rates may well see declining numbers.
- [Motivation](#) for people to work on relationship problems within mateships will be naturally reduced.

In short, the advent of sex robot technology may well foreshadow, in many ways, the demise of intimate relationships in the modern world.

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Human Rights Lawyer: Facial

Recognition Is Arsenic In The Water Of Democracy

One critic of Social Engineering and Digital Slavery, aka Technocracy, suggests that “Mass surveillance has a chilling effect that distorts public behaviour.” Indeed, the world has little time left to reverse the trend. □
TN Editor

Automated facial recognition poses one of the greatest threats to individual freedom and should be banned from use in public spaces, according to the director of the campaign group Liberty.

Martha Spurrier, a human rights lawyer, said the technology had such fundamental problems that, despite police enthusiasm for the equipment, its use on the streets should not be permitted.

She said: “I don’t think it should ever be used. It is one of, if not the, greatest threats to individual freedom, partly because of the intimacy of the information it takes and hands to the state without your consent, and without even your knowledge, and partly because you don’t know what is done with that information.”

[Police](#) in England and Wales have used automated facial recognition (AFR) to scan crowds for suspected criminals in trials in city centres, at music festivals, sports events and elsewhere. The events, from a Remembrance Sunday commemoration at the Cenotaph to the Notting Hill festival and the Six Nations rugby, drew combined crowds in the millions.

San Francisco recently became the first US city to [ban police and other agencies from using automated facial recognition](#), following widespread condemnation of China’s use of the technology to impose [control over millions of Uighur Muslims](#) in the western region of Xinjiang.

When deployed in public spaces, automated facial recognition units use a camera to record faces in a crowd. The images are then processed to create a biometric map of each person’s face, based on measurements of the distance between their eyes, nose, mouth and jaw. Each map is then

checked against a “watchlist” containing the facial maps of suspected criminals.

Spurrier said: “I think it’s pretty salutary that the world capital of technology has just banned this technology. We should sit up and listen when San Francisco decides that they don’t want this on their streets.

“It goes far above and beyond what we already have, such as CCTV and stop-and-search. It takes us into uncharted invasive state surveillance territory where everyone is under surveillance. By its nature it is a mass surveillance tool.”

She said a lack of strong governance and oversight could allow the police to roll out live facial recognition by stealth, without a meaningful debate on whether the public wanted it or not. The technology was developing so fast, she said, that government was failing to keep up.

“There is a real sense of technological determinism that is often pushed by the big corporations, but also by law enforcement and by government, that it’s inevitable we’ll have this, so we should stop talking about why we shouldn’t have it,” she said.

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