

The good, the bad and the ugly: security technology and human rights

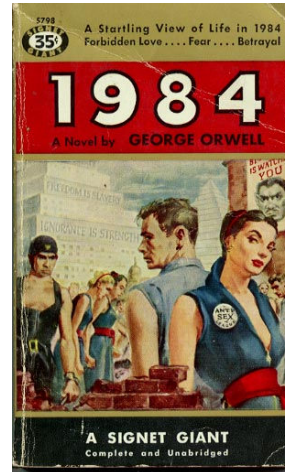
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Who cares about human rights?

- Citizens – who want to be treated with dignity and respect
- Regulators – who want to make sure law is being followed
- Legislators – who will be pressured to create new legislation by unhappy voters

Human rights-friendly design

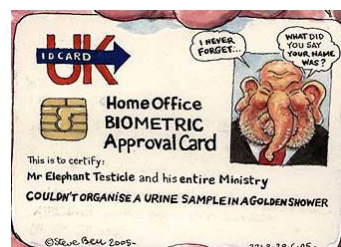
- Minimally invasive
- Effective
- Strategic



Minimally invasive

Targeted and gathers minimum personal data

- GOOD: transport container scanning; WMD detectors
- BAD: gathers personal data while merely displacing problem – CCTV
- UGLY: treats entire populations as criminals – ID cards, communications data retention



Effective

Provides the benefits claimed at a reasonable cost

- GOOD: stronger cockpit doors, better street lighting
- BAD: face recognition that identifies only pickpockets and ticket touts (Snooperbowl) and does not lead to one arrest in first three years (Newham)
- UGLY: An invasive \$15bn programme (US-VISIT) that identifies 1,000 low-level criminals



Strategic

- Will not be used in a way that creates new community grievances, such as more racially biased police searches
- Do not damage the values the “war on terror” is supposed to be defending, e.g. by censoring websites or undertaking warrantless wiretaps
- Fix causes of problems, not surface symptoms



Safe *and* free

- Engineers have a vital role in ensuring technology protects our freedom **and** security
- Minimally-invasive, effective and strategic technology can do that
- Vastly expensive mass surveillance and censorship technologies cannot

