

On the ethical crisis in technology

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Self-Driving Uber Car Kills Pedestrian in Arizona, Where Robots Roam



A woman crossing Mill Avenue at its intersection with Curry Road in Tempe, Ariz., on Monday. A pedestrian was struck and killed by a self-driving Uber vehicle at the intersection a night earlier. Caitlin O'Hara for The New York Times

From *The New York Times*

“This product is a piece of shit,” a doctor at Florida’s Jupiter Hospital said to IBM, according to the documents reviewed by Stat. “We bought it for marketing and with hopes that you would achieve the vision. We can’t use it for most cases.”

From *STAT*



Revealed / 50 million Facebook profiles
harvested for Cambridge Analytica in
major data breach

484

From *The
Guardian*

US border agents hacked their “risk assessment” system to recommend detention 100% of the time

By [Nikhil Sonnad](#) • June 26, 2018



From Quartz
qz.com



From the US
DoD

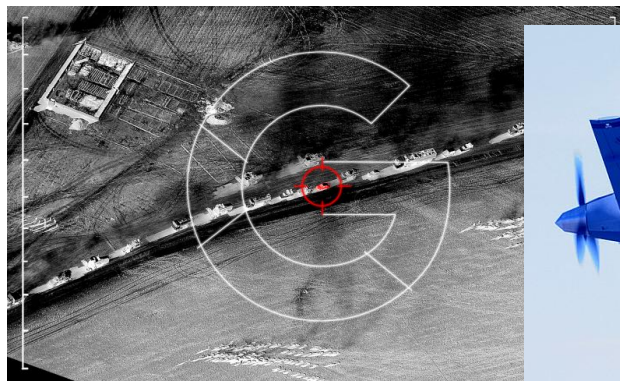
“We believe that Google should not be in the business of war.”

-- Open letter to Google's CEO, signed by thousands of Google employees



DON'T BE EVIL


End the work on the Pentagon's drone project






**“Google should not
be in the business
of war.”**

– Google workers to Sundar Pichai,
on Google’s contract with the
Pentagon’s Project Maven




**“Those creating powerful
technology have to ensure
what they build is used for
good, and not for harm.”**

– Microsoft workers to Satya Nadella,
on Microsoft’s contract with ICE/DHS



**“We refuse to contribute
to tools that violate
human rights.”**

– Amazon workers to Jeff Bezos, on
Amazon’s surveillance technology
contracts with ICE and law enforcement



**“We cannot cede
responsibility for the use of
the technology we create.”**

– Salesforce workers to Marc Benioff,
on Salesforce’s CRM contract with
Customs and Border Protection

Salesforce is hiring its first Chief Ethical and Humane Use officer to make sure its artificial intelligence isn't used for evil

Rosalie Chan Dec. 16, 2018, 3:10 PM



From
Business
Insider



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Disinformation and 'fake news': Final Report [Contents](#)

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EU Working Group Publishes Draft Guidance on AI Ethics

By Ezra Steinhardt and Sam Jungyun Choi on December 20, 2018

POSTED IN [ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE \(AI\)](#), [AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES](#), [EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES](#), [EUROPEAN UNION](#)

On 18 December 2018, the EU High-Level Expert Group on Artificial Intelligence (the “AI HLEG”) published new draft guidance on “**AI Ethics**” (the “guidance”). The **AI HLEG** is a European Commission-backed working group made up of representa-

From *Inside
Privacy*



Technologists (mostly) want to do the right thing

- 80% think we have an obligation to consider the ethical implications of our code
- 50% would report unethical code if they saw it
- 40% would write unethical code if asked (they mostly said 'it depends' - interpreted this as 'we would do it but we would feel bad')
- 20% feel ultimately responsible for their unethical code

From <https://insights.stackoverflow.com/survey/2018>

What can we do?

What can a technologist do when they see, or are asked to do, something unethical?

- Raise the alarm
- Stand up and leave
- Become a whistleblower









GREATEST CRASH

DELUGE OF PANIC SELLING
OVERWHELMS MARKET

19,000,000 SHARES CHANGE
HANDS

PRICES TUMBLE LIKE AN
AVALANCHE

WILD SCENES TILL GREAT
FINANCIERS COME TO
RESCUE



The New York Stock Exchange

The worst crash in the history of Wall Street took place yesterday,



Alex Stamos ✓ @alexstamos · Feb 24

Anybody wonder why the big tech companies didn't really fight that hard against GDPR? It isn't due to a newfound love of regulation.

James Pethokoukis ✓ @JimPethokoukis

"Since the GDPR's implementation in May, the rank and market share of small- and medium-sized ad tech companies has declined by 18 to 32 percent in the EU, while these measures have increased for Google, Facebook, and Amazon" [aei.org/publication/fe...](https://www.aei.org/publication/fe...)



51



548



1.1K

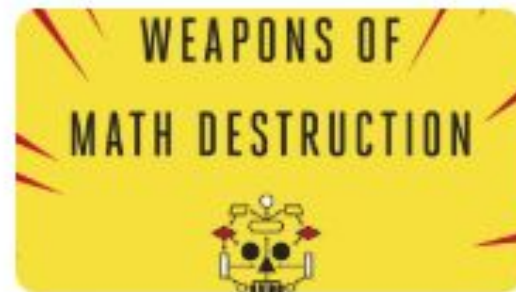




WED, MAR 6, 6:30 PM

Book Club: 'Weapons of Math Destruction' by Cathy O'Neil

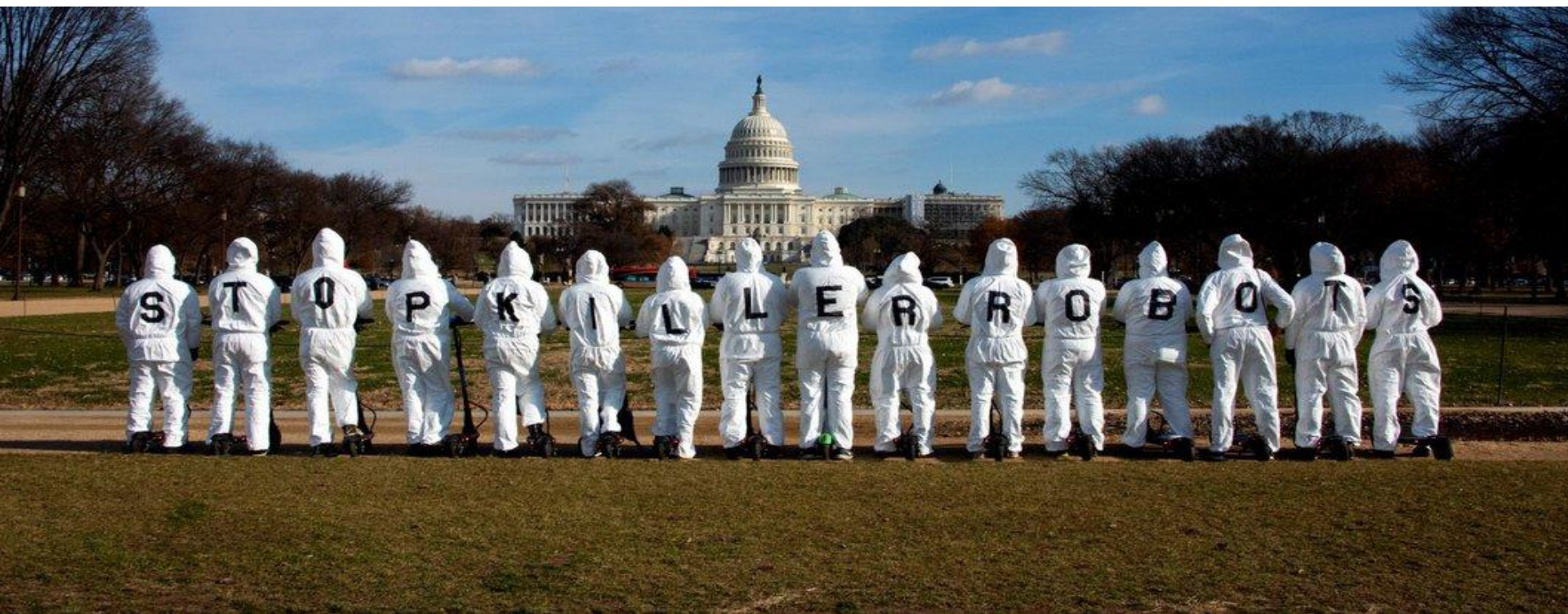
📍 The Square Ball



Cathy O'Neil's book 'Weapons of Math Destruction' covers the societal impact of big data algorithms and how they can reinforce inequality. The book was longlisted for the 2016 US National Book Award for Non-fiction. It covers ground that I think is really important for anyone...

<https://www.meetup.com/TechWontBuildIt-Dublin>

@twbiireland on Twitter



@ban_kr_ireland