

ethics paper #1

Prof Bill - Aug 2016

Assignment:

Write an op-ed or book/movie review related to ethics in technology

This is our least formal paper, so be creative and have some fun.

- ❖ **Due** - Tue Sep 13, 2016 at the beginning of class (print it out, please)
- ❖ **Grading** - This paper is worth 5 points, or 5% of your total grade

Here are some (non-binding) ideas for you:

- Write an **op-ed**. Here are a couple examples:
 - Gene editing: Running with scissors, www.nature.com/nature/journal/v535/n7612/full/535352a.html
 - Military technology: Death by remote control, www.nature.com/nature/journal/v534/n7609/full/534618a.html
- Do a **movie review**. I enjoyed the documentary about Edward Snowden called Citizen Four: www.citizenfourfilm.com/. Another interesting movie with lots of tech ethics issues is “Her” starring Joaquin Phoenix and Scarlett Johansson.
- Do a **book review**. It’s 4 years old now, but I liked “Alone Together” by Sherry Turkle, <http://a.co/2WREhbf>. She discusses the social impact of tech in our lives.
- **Review a TED talk**. I didn’t really like it much, but here’s Sherry Turkle’s TED Talk: www.ted.com/talks/sherry_turkle_alone_together. Or just google, “list of ted talks on ethics” for better ideas.

What’s an oped piece?

- The NY Times says: “Articles typically run from 400 to 1,200 words”.
- The Wall Street Journal says: “Op-Eds: 600-1200 words, double-spaced. The piece must center on a strong argument about an issue in the news and not be a response to a Journal article. Please use jargon-free language.”

Format requirements: use **double-spacing** and (1 page < **paper length** <= 3 pages)