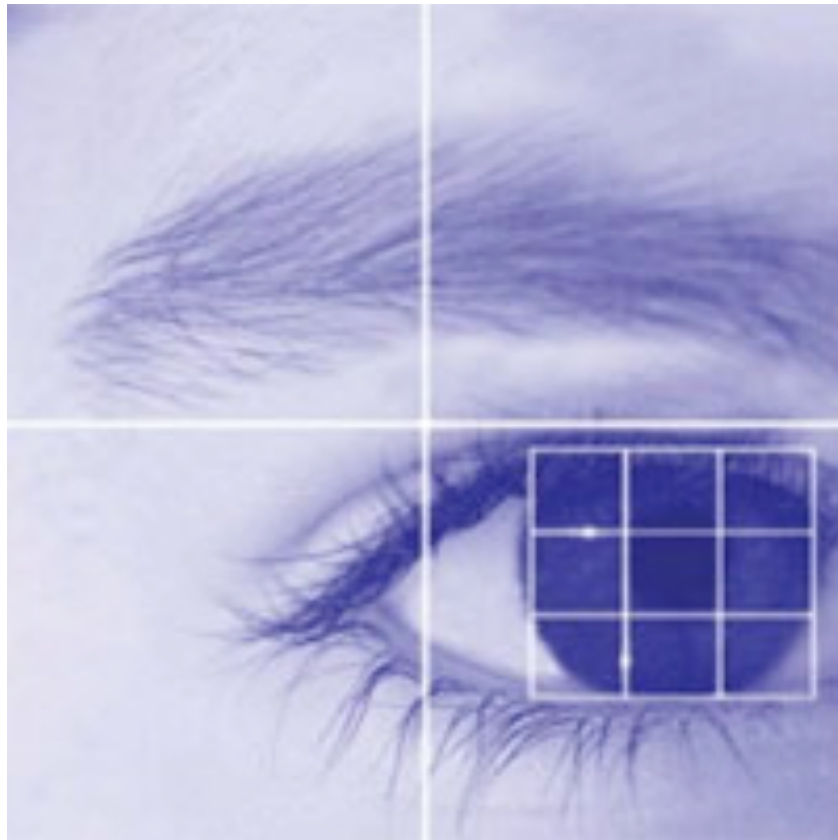


Discussion Triggers

'The Projectionist' teachers resources



Privacy and surveillance in today's society

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Discussion Trigger 1: The Photos

CANDY: No. Yes. Listen to me: I'm glad you've rung because I've been thinking... about those photos, Mark... you know, the ones we took on the beach?

MARK: Cool, aren't they?

CANDY: I think we should delete them.

MARK: Don't you like them anymore? Because they remind you of me?

CANDY: No... it's not that. It's just... they're personal. They're between you and me... and what's past should stay in the past, don't you think.

MARK: I'll delete mine if you delete yours.

Mark didn't delete the photos he put them on the internet.

Issues and prompts

- Mark, after having suggested he and Candy delete their photos of each other, put the photos of the internet. What do you think? Was there anything wrong with what he did?
- What do you see as the negative consequences for Mark, as a result of his decision to put the photos online? What sort of formal punishment for his action might, in your view, have been justified?
- Why do you think Mark put the photos of Candy online?
- Do you think Candy could have prevented Mark from putting the pictures of her online? If so How?
- Candy also had pictures of Mark, do you think she should have put those photos of him online?

Discussion Trigger 2: Can you have privacy?

ABI: No really I thought, 'Abi, don't be daft, just go to the café... where she works.... she doesn't get paid much... I'm sorry about that, you know but

CANDY: I don't believe this

ABI: What's the matter?

CANDY: You looked up my personal details?

ABI: No... Yes... look it's alright... our system is industry standard

CANDY: But my personal details are exactly that: personal.

Abi looked up Candy's personal details so she could apologise to Candy for showing Mark how to use the technology that allowed Mark to put the photo of Candy on the internet.

Issues and prompts

- Is it wrong that Abi looked up Candy's personal details even though she did not intend to harm her?
- How easy do you think it is to get hold of somebody's personal details using the internet?
- What are the dangers of people being able to look up your personal details on line?
- Is Abi in any way responsible for Mark putting the picture of Candy online even though Abi didn't know that's what he was going to do?

Discussion Trigger 3: What is your information worth?

- CANDY:** Those details are me. Mine. They're none of your business.
- ABI:** But that data on you is in the public domain.
- CANDY:** I never gave my permission
- ABI:** You were on about 200 databases.
- CANDY:** (Angrier now) I never gave my details away.
- ABI:** No, really...you must have. Well, in passing at least.
- CANDY:** (Incredulous) No.
- ABI:** When you shopped, went to the doctors, went on a bus,
- CANDY:** Wait
- ABI:** flew, paid into a bank, took out a loan
- CANDY:** You mean
- ABI:** No no... see, it's all to the good... businesses use that information to provide better services... and...you could tap into it too... find a market for your art... (sympathetically:) I couldn't find out about that... you still do that, don't you?

Issues and prompts

Businesses use information provided by their customers, e.g. through rewards cards. This will tell them which people buy what products and how often so they can predict who will buy a new product in the future.

The overall UK loyalty market is worth £65bn a year. Around 85% of UK households have at least one loyalty card.

Source

http://www.consumeraffairs.com/news04/2005/loyalty_cards.html

Oyster is London's ticketing and revenue system. At its heart is the Oyster card, a 'smartcard' which makes buying and using tickets easier.

An Oyster card can store up to £90 of cash which can be used to pay as you go, plus your Travelcard or Bus Pass.

It can be used on the tube, trams, buses, Docklands Light Railway, London Overground and some National Rail services in London.

There are plans in place to make Oyster cards available nationwide in the U.K in the future.

If you register your Oyster card (provide your name, address and further contact details):

- It protects your ticket from theft because any 'pre pay' credit or 'travelcard' you have stored onto your oyster card will be held centrally on a computer system and you can get a replacement card with all your credit still left on it, if your card is lost or stolen.
- It also allows you to be able to 'top up' online.

A by-product of this ticket system is that if your Oyster card is registered government organisations can track your travel movements. This can help organisations like the police find missing persons and track criminal suspects.

Sources

<http://www.tfl.gov.uk/tickets/oysteronline/2732.aspx>

- Would you be prepared to give your personal details away to businesses for better service or discounts?
- How do businesses use that information that you (in passing) provide to them?
- If your information is used by businesses to make more money how could they better pass on rewards to their customers?
- Do you think it keeps our society safer when government organisations can track your travel movements through your (Oyster card) electronic ticket?
- Should only criminals be worried about government organisations tracking their travel movements through their (Oyster card) electronic ticket?

Discussion Trigger 4: Background Check

Mark: When I got turned down for that job, my world fell apart. When I asked why, the school gave me a sheet of paper that said 'Projection' at the top. It was supposed to be about me, but I couldn't recognise myself from it.

In the play Mark is turned down for a teaching job because of being arrested and released without charge when he was younger.

For certain types of jobs people have to have a C.R.B check or disclosure.

A Disclosure is when the Criminal Records Bureau (C.R.B) search for details of any convictions, cautions, reprimands and final warnings the person applying for the job has received, regardless of length of time since the incidents together with details of whether that person is banned from working with children or vulnerable adults (if these details have been requested).

Issues and prompts

- Do you think it is a good idea for people who work directly with children and young people to have a C.R.B check?
- Do you think it was right for Mark to be turned down for a teaching job?
- What factors do you think should determine whether somebody should be allowed to work with children and young people or vulnerable adults?

Discussion Trigger 5: If you've done nothing wrong you have nothing to hide?

Mark: My identity isn't actually who I am.... it's who I can prove that I am.
(Pause) I... I was wrong about surveillance. We all make mistakes, don't we? We all take risks, do things we'd rather forget. No-one is perfect. And if we've all done things wrong, then don't we all have something to fear?

Issues and prompts

- Is it true that if you have done nothing wrong you have nothing to fear from CCTV?
- is it true that if you have done nothing wrong you have nothing to fear from a DNA database?
- What does Mark mean when he says his identity is only what he can prove that he is?
- Which is more important privacy or safety, why?
- What do you think would be a balance between the two?

Discussion Trigger 6: Panic Attacks

Candy: I actually thought: so this is where I die. I thought I was going to go mad and lash out. Everything became... jagged. Mum didn't know what to do and a woman in front of us said she thought I was hyperventilating and she got a paper bag from the till and told me to breathe into it slowly, which worked a bit... only the feeling kept coming back. I thought I was having a heart attack. Mum decided to take me to A & E.

When the doctor came over, he said I'd just had a panic attack. I'm sorry but there's no just about a panic attack. (Pause) I had them all the time after that. It got to the point that if I so much as stepped outside the house my heart would start racing. I couldn't be in the house without opening all the windows.

Issues and prompts

- What is meant by the term Panic Attack?
- Why do you think the first Panic Attack Candy experienced was so difficult for her?

Panic Attack

A panic attack is when your body experiences a sudden rush of intense psychological (mental) and physical symptoms.

You may feel an overwhelming sense of fear, apprehension, and anxiety. As well as these feelings, you may also experience physical symptoms, such as nausea, sweating, trembling, and a sensation that your heart is beating irregularly (palpitations).

A panic attack can be very frightening and intense, but it is not dangerous. It will not cause you any physical harm.

<http://www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk/articles/article.aspx?articleId=277#>

Discussion Trigger 7: Your projection

Abi: Now if you look at this first slide, you'll see that at Crosstech, what we do is find out about people. Say you work for a company and you're looking to recruit someone. You give us their name and our system searches for all their data from their ID card the National Identity Register, their NHS record, Social Security, education records, shopping accounts, financial statements, phone records, web searches, Facebook, Bebo, MySpace you name it and that's only scratching the surface; we can legally access at least 5,000 sources of data covering every person in the land. Once we've found that data, what we have is a picture of who that person is and how they behave. Their identity, in effect. And then it gets really interesting. From that, we work out how that person is likely to behave in the future. This is called their Projection. Their Projection, okay? And how do we do that? Well, we look at how people similar to them have acted in the past and assume that this person will act in pretty much the same way.

Issues and prompts

- The government does not currently create projections for people but if this were to happen in the future how would you feel about it?
- Do you think it's possible to accurately predict how some body might behave in the future?
- Do you think that people react in the same way as each other in the same circumstances?
- Would you like to see a projection of yourself, if it meant that anyone else could see it?
- How would you feel if your projection was bad?
- How would you feel about it if your projection was good?

Discussion Trigger 8: Advancement?

ABI:That's what technology does. It makes necessary things easier to do.

Issues and prompts

Technology makes it much easier for people to keep in touch with each other, through email, social networking websites and mobile phones. The more we communicate using the internet and mobile technology the easier it is for people to see and hear our communications with other people.

- What are the positives, negatives and interesting features about this?

If you were an engineer, designer or inventor what would you create, design or invent to make the world:

- Safer
- More/less private
- Able to communicate better