Coded Bias?

an annotated reading list on facial recognition

if you have 10 minutes, read this:

What is at stake here? In a nuclear metaphor, Luke Stark explains the "toxic" nature of facial recognition.

Stark, Luke (2019). Facial recognition is the plutonium of AI. *XRDS: Crossroads, The ACM Magazine for Students*, 25(3), 50–55. https://doi.org/10.1145/3313129

if you have 2 hours, read these:

How layers of social and technical infrastructures make facial recognition systems possible – and also hard to contain.

Keyes, Os (2019). *The Bones We Leave Behind*. Real Life. https://reallifemag.com/the-bones-we-leave-behind/

The surveillance of black bodies in America has a past, and it goes back to transatlantic slavery.

Browne, Simone (2015). B®anding Blackness. In *Dark Matters: On the Surveillance of Blackness*. Duke University Press, 89-129.

How portrait photography has been historically used as a means of social control.

Sekula, Allan (1986). The Body and the Archive. *October*, 39, 3–64.

What the future might look like? In this podcast episode, host Jennifer Strong dives inside the discussion around the regulation of facial detection.

Who Owns Your Face? (2020, August 12). *In Machines We Trust*. MIT Technology Review.

Spaces of resistance in the eyes of two artists:

To protect individual privacy, Zach Blas explores ways of "black-boxing the self" by morphing the face into something unrecognizable by machines.

Zach Blas: *Facial Weaponization Suite* (2011-2014)

Paolo Cirio reverses surveillance and questions the asymmetrical power relationship between the state and its citizens.

Paolo Cirio: *Capture* (2020)

if you want to dig deeper, read these:

After 9/11, the US government institutionalized facial recognition to monitor its people. Kelly Gates on how we became "biometric citizens" in the name of national security.

Gates, Kelly (2011). *Our Biometric Future: Facial Recognition Technology and the Culture of Surveillance.* NYU Press.

What happens when facial recognition systems fail – and what those failures tell us.

Magnet, Shoshana (2011). *When Biometrics Fail: Gender, Race, and the Technology of Identity.* Duke University Press.

Racialized norms were built into automated facial recognition systems in the 1960s, and they persist until today.

Dick, Stephanie. (2019, September 30). *"The Standard Head."*

Beyond public surveillance, commercialized use of facial detection shapes how we see ourselves.

Fan, Jiayang (2017, December). China's Selfie Obsession. *The New Yorker*.

In a science fiction story, Ted Chiang reflects on how visual technology might disrupt or reproduce gender and racial ideologies.

Chiang, Ted (2010). Liking What You See: A Documentary. In *Stories of Your Life and Others*. Knopf.

It's not just humans – animals are also being "watched."

LaPenne, A (Director). (2020). Surveillance (season 1, ep. 1). In *Connected: The Hidden Science of Everything*. Netflix.

The efforts and challenges of governing biometric systems from a global perspective.

Kak, Amba (ed.) (2020). Regulating Biometrics: Global Approaches and Urgent Questions. AI Now Institute.

Digital Due Process

The **Digital Due Process Clinic** is a research program at Cornell University, where faculty and students work together on behalf of people struggling with automated scoring systems.

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