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.


if you have 2 hours, read these:

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


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


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


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.


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.


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


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


It’s not just humans – animals are also being “watched.”


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


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


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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