

THE IMPACT OF VIDEO SURVEILLANCE ON AN INDIVIDUAL

Bosko Bujanja¹

¹ School of Engineering Management, Belgrade, Republic of Serbia, bosko.bujanja@fim.rs

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Abstract: *The aim of this paper is to provide a better insight into the presence of surveillance cameras can cause a feeling of distrust towards the institutions that install them. Some people may feel as if they are constantly being watched or not trusted. Knowing that cameras are monitoring them, people can become more aware of their behavior and more careful in public spaces. This can lead to changes in behavior, such as refraining from inappropriate or illegal behavior. People who know they are being recorded by surveillance cameras may become more aware of their appearance and behavior in public, which can lead to greater self-awareness and behavioral changes. However, the presence of surveillance cameras can cause an individual to feel uncomfortable especially if he feels that his privacy is threatened or if he feels constantly being watched. So, is it the impact of surveillance cameras on an individual's consciousness can be complex and diverse, including both positive and negative aspects, and it differs from person to person and from situation to situation. In the paper were used available sources of professional literature and secondary research.*

Key words: *Surveillance, Ethical, Anxiety, Self-consciousness, Closed-Circuit Television*

1. INTRODUCTION

The impact of CCTV /Closed-Circuit Television/ on crime prevention is a topic of ongoing debate among researchers and policymakers. One of the main arguments in favor of CCTV is its deterrent effect. The presence of cameras in public places may discourage potential criminals from committing crimes, knowing they are being watched and could be identified. Surveillance cameras footage can be crucial in identifying suspects after a crime has occurred. It serves as valuable evidence in investigations and can aid law enforcement in apprehending perpetrators. Studies on the effectiveness of CCTV in reducing crime have produced mixed results. Some research suggests that surveillance can reduce certain types of crimes in specific contexts, such as theft and vandalism in parking lots or public transportation areas. However, its effectiveness varies depending on factors like camera placement, monitoring, and the type of crime. Implementing and maintaining camera systems can be costly (Boghossian 2019). There are also concerns about privacy infringement, as widespread surveillance can potentially encroach on individuals' privacy rights. Critics argue that surveillance may simply displace

crime to areas not covered by cameras rather than reducing overall crime rates. Criminals may move their activities to locations perceived as less monitored. The presence of it can affect public perception of safety, potentially making people feel more secure in public spaces. The impact of CCTV on crime rates is a topic that has been extensively studied, but the findings are mixed and somewhat inconclusive. In some specific situations and contexts, surveillance cameras have been associated with reductions in certain types of crimes. For example, cameras in parking lots or public transportation areas has shown effectiveness in reducing theft, vandalism, and other property crimes. The presence of CCTV cameras can act as a deterrent to potential offenders. Knowing they are being watched and could be identified may discourage individuals from committing crimes in areas under surveillance (Lauer, Meehan, 2019). The effectiveness of that depends on various factors such as the quality of camera coverage, how actively the footage is monitored, the responsiveness of law enforcement to incidents captured, and the specific crime patterns in the area. While some studies suggest a positive impact of surveillance on reducing crime rates, others have found minimal or no effect. Factors such as crime displacement, where criminals move their activities to areas without cameras coverage and the potential for increased feelings of safety rather than actual crime reduction contribute to these mixed findings. Implementing and maintaining mentioned systems can be expensive. Local governments and businesses of many places must weigh these costs against potential benefits in crime reduction and enhanced public safety. Constant surveillance in public and sometimes private spaces can lead to feelings of being watched and concerns about personal privacy rights (Joyce 2015).

This paper aim to analyze, multifaced impacts on individuals, encompassing both positive and negative aspects. Through a literature review, increasing security in public spaces, workplaces, and residential areas as well as ethical debates one of the most significant issues associated any invasion of privacy.

2. THE FIRST RESEARCHES AND REACTIONS

There are significant privacy considerations associated with widespread camera surveillance. Balancing the need for enhanced security with individual privacy rights is an ongoing challenge for policymakers and communities. Experiments on surveillance, particularly involving both animals and humans, have explored various aspects of behavior, stress responses, and the impact of being observed. Ivan Pavlov's famous experiments with dogs involved conditioning them to associate a bell - neutral stimulus, with food, which naturally elicited salivation ((Adams 2020). Over time, the dogs learned to salivate at the sound of the bell alone, demonstrating how environmental cues, including human presence, can influence and modify animal behavior. Also, zookeepers often observe animals in their enclosures to study their behavior, social interactions, and responses to human visitors. These observations help understand how animals react to the presence of humans, including changes in activity levels, stress responses, and social behaviors. Studies in laboratory settings often use rodents, like rats, to investigate the effects of surveillance and monitoring on stress levels and behavior (Chadha 2022).

Conducted at Western Electric's Hawthorne Works /1920's/ in Chicago, these studies examined how various changes in work environment, including increased supervision and observation, affected worker productivity (Adams 2020). The Hawthorne effect, named after these experiments, suggests that individuals may modify their behavior or productivity in response to being observed, regardless of actual changes in working conditions. Various social psychology experiments explore how people conform to social norms and expectations, which can be influenced by the presence of surveillance or monitoring. Studies have shown that individuals may alter their behavior when they believe they are being watched, either to

conform to expected norms or to avoid perceived negative consequences. In public spaces researches possibly could show, how forms of surveillance influence public behavior, perceptions of safety, and adherence to rules (Adams 2020). These studies often find a complex relationship between surveillance and behavior, with individuals adjusting their actions based on perceived surveillance, which can affect crime rates, social interactions, and the overall atmosphere of public spaces. Studies have investigated the psychological impact of surveillance on individuals' stress levels, anxiety, and sense of privacy. Research indicates that heightened surveillance can lead to increased stress and anxiety, particularly when individuals feel their privacy is compromised or when surveillance is perceived as intrusive or unjustified.

3. PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Question is how individuals feel under surveillance cameras encompasses a range of psychological and sociological dimensions, and how public discourse and media representation of surveillance cameras shape individuals' perceptions and feelings? These themes collectively contribute to a multidisciplinary understanding of surveillance cameras, encompassing technology, law, sociology, psychology, and public policy. Studies investigate how the awareness of being monitored by surveillance cameras affects individuals' psychological well-being, emotions, and behaviors. This includes feelings of anxiety, stress, self-consciousness, and the perception of being constantly observed. It examines whether people modify their behavior or avoid certain activities when aware of being monitored. These perceptions vary across different demographic groups, cultural contexts, and types of surveillance. The presence of surveillance cameras influences individuals' trust in governmental institutions, law enforcement agencies, businesses, and other entities deploying surveillance technologies (Chadha 2022). Which includes examining whether perceived surveillance impacts trust and cooperation within communities. It means that surveillance cameras influence social norms and adherence to rules and regulations. This includes whether individuals are more likely to conform to expected behaviors or norms under surveillance, known as the "watching eyes" effect. Obviously, individuals perceive and cope with privacy concerns related to surveillance cameras. This includes strategies for managing feelings of discomfort or intrusion, such as adjusting personal behaviors or advocating for privacy protections (Marlan 2023). Besides that, public debates and advocacy efforts related to surveillance technologies. Comparative studies may highlight variations in attitudes, norms, and regulatory frameworks related to surveillance. Individuals under surveillance cameras need to deepen understanding of the psychological and social dimensions of surveillance practices, informing policies and practices that respect individual rights and promote public trust in surveillance technologies.

4. ETHICAL ASPECTS OF VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

Ethical discussions explore the balance between security and civil liberties, including the right to move freely without constant surveillance. Perspectives on surveillance cameras are shaped by cultural norms, legal frameworks, and societal values. Improper use or unauthorized access to CCTV footage can lead to misuse or abuse of surveillance systems, violating individuals' rights and freedoms (Birnhack, Perry-Hazan 2020). Closed-Circuit Television can influence social behaviors by altering how people perceive and interact in public spaces. Some individuals may feel constrained or monitored, affecting their sense of freedom and expression. While cameras can enhance security measures, it can also create a false sense of security. Relying solely on surveillance technology may neglect other important aspects of crime prevention and safety measures. This includes discussions on the ethical responsibilities of surveillance operators and policymakers. There are concerns that monitoring may

disproportionately target certain groups or communities, leading to issues of discrimination or profiling (Alkhurayyif 2023).

Proper regulation and oversight of surveillance systems are crucial to mitigate potential abuses and ensure that surveillance practices adhere to legal and ethical standards. Ethical frameworks emphasize the importance of accountability mechanisms for surveillance practices. Transparency in the deployment and use of cameras, including clear signage indicating surveillance, can help mitigate privacy concerns and foster public trust. Achieving a balance between enhancing security through surveillance and protecting individuals' rights to privacy remains a critical challenge for policymakers and stakeholders (Birnhack, Perry-Hazan 2020).

Ethical analysis seeks to mitigate these disparities through fair and equitable deployment practices. Ethical considerations extend to the involvement of the public and stakeholders in decisions about surveillance camera deployment and policies (Marlan 2023). Ethical view of how surveillance technologies affect social justice and equity, participatory approaches to ensure that diverse perspectives and concerns are addressed in ethical deliberations. Studies scrutinize the ethical considerations specific to the use of surveillance cameras in law enforcement, national security, and public safety contexts. This includes debates on proportionality, necessity, and the balance between security imperatives and civil liberties. Ethical analysis anticipates the ethical challenges posed by advancements in surveillance technologies, such as AI-driven analytics, automated decision-making, and the integration of surveillance with IoT /*Internet of Things*/ devices in smart city initiatives. Ethical considerations extend to the impact of surveillance cameras on public trust in institutions and authorities. Surveillance cameras raise a host of ethical considerations that have been extensively studied and debated across various disciplines. Ethical debates often center on whether individuals are adequately informed about the presence and scope of surveillance cameras. Surveillance cameras generate vast amounts of data, including sensitive information about individuals' activities and behaviors (Alkhurayyif 2023). Ethical concerns arise regarding how this data is collected, stored, accessed, and secured. There is also a risk of unauthorized access or misuse of surveillance data, leading to potential breaches of privacy and security. This concept refers to the gradual expansion of surveillance beyond its original intended purpose. Ethical considerations include whether surveillance cameras are being used for purposes other than public safety, such as social control, political monitoring, or commercial interests, without adequate oversight or accountability. There are ethical concerns about the potential for surveillance cameras, particularly those equipped with facial recognition technology or other forms of biometric identification, to perpetuate bias and discrimination.

5. CONTRIBUTES TO CRIME PREVENTION

Question is about the effectiveness of surveillance cameras in deterring crime, aiding in criminal investigations, and improving public safety. Surveillance cameras covers a broad spectrum of topics, reflecting both the technological advancements and societal impacts of these devices. Use of surveillance cameras in public areas such as streets, parks, transportation hubs, and government buildings, also cameras in private settings such as workplaces, homes, and commercial establishment. It can make comparison of crime statistics before and after camera installation, as well as public perceptions of safety. Statistic studies were conducted in a range of 23 countries, including USA, UK, Canada, South Korea, Sweden, Norway, Spain, Poland and Australia. The effectiveness of CCTV on different crime types showed that drug-related crimes decreased by 20% and vehicle and property crime decreased by 14% in places that had CCTV compared to those that did not (College of Policing 2015). The development and capabilities of surveillance cameras, including improvements in image

resolution, low-light performance, facial recognition technology, and integration with other systems like AI /*artificial intelligence*/ and big data analytics. This includes considerations of public versus private ownership of surveillance systems and the regulation of camera deployment. This involves issues of employee monitoring, consumer privacy, and the balance between security and intrusion. There is also research exploring how attitudes toward surveillance cameras vary across different cultures and regions. This includes comparative studies between countries with differing legal frameworks and cultural norms regarding privacy and surveillance (College of Policing 2015). Scholars investigate the regulatory frameworks governing the use of surveillance cameras, including guidelines for their deployment, data storage, access control, and the rights of individuals being monitored. Lastly, research often speculates on future trends in surveillance technology, including the rise of AI-driven surveillance, wearable cameras, drone surveillance, and the implications of ubiquitous surveillance in smart cities.

The presence of cameras may deter criminal activity and enhance the perception of safety among individuals. This footage can provide valuable evidence in criminal investigations, aiding law enforcement in identifying suspects and prosecuting offenders. Also, can potentially lead to higher rates of crime detection and lower rates of successful criminal activity. In public spaces, surveillance can help monitor for emergencies, accidents, and unauthorized activities, enabling timely responses from authorities to ensure public safety. Cameras are widely used for traffic management and monitoring, helping to improve traffic flow, enforce traffic laws, and reduce accidents.

6. METROPOLISES WHERE SURVEILLANCE EVOLUTION STARTED

New York City has a large number of surveillance cameras deployed across its boroughs, primarily in public spaces, transportation systems, and around iconic landmarks. Surveillance in New York City is a significant component of the city's efforts to enhance public safety and monitor urban activities. New York City has one of the largest networks of cameras in the United States. London is often cited as having one of the most extensive networks of surveillance cameras in the world, both in public spaces and within public transportation systems like the London Underground (Boghossian 2019). Beijing and Shanghai play significant roles in enhancing security, monitoring urban activities, and supporting law enforcement efforts. Beijing has a vast network of 'cameras' covering public spaces, government buildings, transportation hubs, commercial areas, and residential neighborhoods (Zuboff 2020). The city has heavily invested in expanding its surveillance infrastructure, especially in response to security concerns. CCTV in Beijing are used to deter criminal activities such as theft, vandalism, and public disturbances.

7. COMPARISON OF THE MOST DEVELOPED CCTV AREAS

China is known for having one of the most extensive video surveillance networks in the world. The system includes millions of cameras deployed across cities, rural areas, and even on public transportation. The surveillance system is highly integrated with advanced artificial intelligence (AI) technologies, including facial recognition, behavior analysis, and even emotion detection. Surveillance systems vary widely by country and even by city. In general, Western countries have fewer cameras relative to the population compared to China (Zuboff 2020). While AI technologies are used in some areas, their deployment is generally more limited and subject to stricter regulations and oversight compared to China. The primary purpose of surveillance in China is often linked to maintaining social control and monitoring political dissent. The system supports the government's goals of maintaining order and enhancing security but also plays a role in the social credit system, which can impact citizens' access to various services and opportunities. Surveillance also serves to prevent and respond

to crimes and manage public events. In Western countries, surveillance is primarily focused on crime prevention, investigation, and public safety. The emphasis is often on addressing immediate security threats rather than broader social control (Alkhurayyif 2023). There is a stronger focus on balancing surveillance with privacy rights and individual freedoms. Surveillance systems are typically subject to legal frameworks and oversight intended to protect civil liberties. Many citizens in China may view surveillance as a necessary measure for maintaining public safety and order. However, there is also significant concern and criticism from international observers regarding the extent of surveillance and its implications for personal freedoms. There is typically greater public concern and debate over surveillance practices. Many people advocate for stricter privacy protections and more stringent controls on surveillance technologies. China leads in integrating cutting-edge technologies like facial recognition, big data analytics, and AI into its surveillance infrastructure. The system is designed to be comprehensive and highly effective in monitoring and analyzing public behavior (Zuboff 2020). While Western countries use advanced technologies, their integration is often more selective and regulated. There is a focus on ensuring that technologies are used in ways that respect privacy and legal standards.

8. CONCLUSION

While technology system can offer benefits in terms of security and crime prevention, its widespread deployment raises significant ethical, legal, and social considerations that need careful consideration and management to ensure its responsible use and minimize negative impacts on individuals and communities. It started with experiments, the interdisciplinary nature of surveillance studies, examining first animals' behavior in controlled settings, then human responses in real-world environments. They provide insights into how surveillance can influence behavior, social dynamics, stress levels, and perceptions of privacy across different species. In general, the psychological effects of surveillance are multifaceted and can vary depending on the context, the perceived benefits of surveillance, and individual attitudes toward privacy and security. Balancing the benefits of enhanced security with the potential impacts on privacy and personal freedom remains a significant consideration in the deployment and use of CCTV systems.

This study analyzes how the presence of surveillance cameras affects social dynamics, trust between individuals and institutions, and perceptions of safety versus intrusion. Ethical discussions consider whether surveillance fosters a sense of security or a climate of suspicion and control. Ethical considerations include how surveillance cameras collect, store, and process data, as well as the safeguards in place to protect this data from unauthorized access or misuse. It involves encryption, data retention policies, and the security measures implemented by operators. Ethical concerns arise regarding the potential for surveillance cameras, especially those equipped with facial recognition or other biometric technologies, to perpetuate bias and discrimination. It examines the accuracy of these technologies across diverse populations and their implications for social justice. So, researches explored how surveillance technologies can disproportionately impact marginalized communities, exacerbate existing inequalities, or serve to reinforce power differentials.

Closed-Circuit Television surveillance in global cities like New York, Beijing and Shanghai serves as critical tools for enhancing security, monitoring urban activities, and supporting various aspects of city management. Effective implementation, integration with other crime prevention strategies, and addressing privacy concerns are essential for maximizing the benefits of video recordings while minimizing its limitations. The video surveillance landscape in China is characterized by extensive coverage and integration with state control mechanisms, while Western countries generally focus on balancing security with privacy and

adhering to legal standards. The differences reflect broader societal values and government priorities in each region. The Chinese government has broad authority over surveillance practices, and there is limited public oversight or transparency. Privacy concerns are less prominent in the context of state policies and regulations. Regulations around surveillance are generally more permissive, with the state having significant latitude in deploying and using surveillance technologies. Surveillance practices are regulated by laws designed to protect individual privacy and civil liberties. For example, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in the EU and various privacy laws in the U.S. impose strict limits on data collection and use. There is often a greater emphasis on transparency, accountability, and oversight. Surveillance activities are subject to judicial review and public scrutiny.

Surveillance systems can have several psychological effects on individuals and society as a whole. CCTV cameras can enhance the perception of safety and security in public spaces and private establishments. Knowing that they are being monitored can make individuals feel safer, as it serves as a deterrent to crime. Similar to the perception of safety, these cameras can reduce the fear of crime among the public. When people feel safer, they are more likely to engage in activities and use public spaces without fear of victimization. Being aware of being monitored by cameras can lead individuals to modify their behavior. On the other hand, the presence of these cameras can also raise concerns about privacy. Individuals may feel uncomfortable knowing that their movements and actions are being recorded and potentially monitored by authorities or third parties. Surveillance can influence social dynamics by promoting a sense of trust and order in public places. It can also serve as a tool for social control, as authorities can use footage to enforce laws and regulations. In some cases, the constant awareness of surveillance can lead to stress and anxiety, particularly in environments where individuals feel they have no privacy or control over their surroundings. This can influence social norms by signaling what behaviors are acceptable or unacceptable in specific settings. This can lead to conformity and adherence to rules but may also stifle individual freedoms.

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