

Data and Society

Legal Protections / Guest Lecturer Ben Wizner, ACLU

2/22/21

Today (2/22/21)

- *Briefing Instructions given on 2/11/21; briefing due on 2/26/21*
- Guest Lecture: Ben Wizner, ACLU
- 3 student Presentations

“Watching” for February 25

- **Watch the TED talk by Cathy O’Neil** (author of Weapons of Math Destruction), https://www.ted.com/talks/cathy_o_neil_the_era_of_blind_faith_in_big_data_must_end?language=en



Date	Topic	Speaker	Date	Topic	Speaker
1-25	Introduction	Fran	1-28	The Data-driven World	Fran
2-1	Data and COVID-19	Fran	2-4	Data and Privacy -- Intro	Fran
2-8	Data and Privacy – Differential Privacy	Fran	2-11	Data and Privacy – Anonymity / Briefing Instructions	Fran
2-15	NO CLASS / PRESIDENT’S DAY		2-18	NO CLASS	
2-22	Legal Protections	Ben Wizner	2-25	Data and Discrimination 1	Fran
3-1	Data and Discrimination 2	Fran	3-4	Data and Elections 1	Fran
3-8	Data and Elections 2	Fran	3-11	NO CLASS / WRITING DAY	
3-15	Data and Astronomy	Alyssa Goodman	3-18	Data Science	Fran
3-22	Digital Humanities	Brett Bobley	3-25	Data Stewardship and Preservation	Fran
3-29	Data and the IoT	Fran	4-1	Data and Smart Farms	Rich Wolski
4-5	Data and Self-Driving Cars	Fran	4-8	Data and Ethics 1	Fran
4-12	Data and Ethics 2	Fran	4-15	Cybersecurity	Fran
4-19	Data and Dating	Fran	4-22	Data and Social Media	Fran
4-26	Tech in the News	Fran	4-29	Wrap-up / Discussion	Fran
5-3	NO CLASS				

Speaker for today

Ben Wizner


- Director of the ACLU's Speech, Privacy, and Technology Project
- Works at the intersection of civil liberties and national security
- Adjunct Professor at NYU School of Law.
- Principal Legal Advisor to Edward Snowden

AMERICAN EMPIRES: POWER AND ITS DISCONTENTS | INTERVIEW | October 1, 2014

Ben Wizner: Pull Back to Reveal

The privacy advocate and legal advisor to Edward Snowden on today's surveillance empire.

By Henry Peck



Between 2011 and 2013, a gargantuan structure took shape in the Utah desert. Covering one million square feet and costing over a billion dollars, the facility is the largest data center of the National Security Agency to date. Designed to hold what the *Washington Post* called "oceans of bulk data," it's a tangible manifestation of an American empire based in virtual space, a modern-day watchtower for electronic surveillance.

The scope of US surveillance had been far less conspicuous than the NSA's architecture (which itself is off limits to the public) until the release in 2013 of top-secret NSA documents by the computer analyst Edward Snowden. These revelations were particularly significant for Ben Wizner, director of the American Civil Liberties Union's Speech, Privacy & Technology Project. Wizner had for years been bringing cases challenging the legality of surveillance programs, only to see them dismissed due to

Presentations



Upcoming Presentations

February 25

- **“Where do the vaccine doses go and who gets them? The algorithms decide.”**, New York times, <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/02/07/technology/vaccine-algorithms.html?referringSource=articleShare> (Nicholas J.)
- **“Getting a Covid vaccine can be required by your boss. Why that's a good thing — and a danger”**, NBC News, <https://www.nbcnews.com/think/opinion/getting-covid-vaccine-can-be-required-your-boss-why-s-ncna1256389> (Julian C.)
- **“To fix social media now, focus on privacy, not platforms”**, The Hill, <https://thehill.com/opinion/technology/535824-to-fix-social-media-now-focus-on-privacy-not-platforms> (Eric)

Need Volunteers

March 1

- **“Is an Algorithm less Racist than a Loan Officer?”**, New York Times, <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/18/business/digital-mortgages.html> (Justin C.)
- **“Federal study confirms racial bias of many facial-recognition systems, casts doubt on their expanding use”**, Washington Post, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2019/12/19/federal-study-confirms-racial-bias-many-facial-recognition-systems-casts-doubt-their-expanding-use/> (Sola S.)

March 4

- **“Estonia leads the world in making digital voting a reality”**, Financial Times, <https://www.ft.com/content/b4425338-6207-49a0-bbfb-6ae5460fc1c1> (Ishita P.)
- **“Experts issue warning about electronic voting; blockchain-based systems are not ready for prime time”**, CPO Magazine, <https://www.cpomagazine.com/cyber-security/mit-security-experts-issue-warning-about-electronic-voting-blockchain-based-systems-are-not-ready-for-prime-time/> (Grant B.)

Presentations for Today

- **“Grindr on the hook for 10M euro violations over GDPR consent violations”**, TechCrunch, https://techcrunch.com/2021/01/26/grindr-on-the-hook-for-e10m-over-gdpr-consent-violations/?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xlLmNvbS8&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAABSJHh2KAv6uq4Ncippikhw3Ce8GDoEKFMOcJPFJy1kTbj1Fn_rpur6O7sq1LYNhqv1HzwQ7AVNLVUCIRMg9wPBBVXTIxLK2WDqIMMtpFc68TjvPWzjrF0U4sqHCzns0wFJoubxi4WMIloTy6bswMgd-YBJCxvHYwuGyB9scWgeT (Jeff)
- **“Analysis: California privacy reboot puts rights in spotlight”**, Bloomberg Law, <https://news.bloomberglaw.com/bloomberg-law-analysis/analysis-california-privacy-reboot-puts-rights-in-spotlight> (Angelina)
- **“How the West got China’s social credit system wrong,”** Wired, <https://www.wired.com/story/china-social-credit-score-system/> (Jin)