



Driving While Technologizing

Research Topic: **Tonight 11:59pm**
Participation Portfolio: **Friday 11:59pm**
RJ 13, Cybernetics: **Sunday 11:59pm**



Research Topic

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- ◆ Midnight: *cmat@umbc.edu*
 - ◆ Title
 - ◆ Topic area: **computer science + ethics**
 - ◆ Main question: **narrow it down**
- ◆ 24-hour response window
- ◆ Current ideas are great!

Cryptocurrency



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- ◆ Ethical Analysis 2: Nov. 17th
- ◆ Tackle specific questions! Examples:
 - ◆ Transactions are (somewhat) anonymous – good for privacy, bad for law enforcement. What's more important? What are the ethical implications?
 - ◆ What are the ethical pros and cons of allowing people to invest in a completely unregulated financial market?
- ◆ Questions about cryptocurrency?



Distracted Driving

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- ◆ Texting, talking, email, GPS: bad!
- ◆ But also hands-free driving
 - ◆ Why is this different from conversing with a passenger?
- ◆ HOW bad?
 - ◆ AT LEAST as bad as drunk driving.
 - ◆ (Really!)
- ◆ People know this
- ◆ So why is it widespread?
 - ◆ Poor self-perception? Convenience? Low marginal cost?



Technological Problems

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- ◆ Too late to legislate away the habits
 - ◆ But the NTSB wanted to...
 - ◆ Genie/bottle problem
- ◆ When else has this happened?
 - ◆ Drinking and driving (when cars were new)
 - ◆ Airplane pilots & electronics
 - ◆ Counterpoint: electronics during takeoff and landing.
- ◆ When a new technology interacts badly with an existing technology or habit, **what do we do?**



Rights

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- ◆ What are the ethics of a compelling technology?
 - ◆ “Compelling” vs. “necessary”
- ◆ Do you have a right to talk on the phone *at all*?
 - ◆ Text, play games ...
 - ◆ Most people would say yes.
- ◆ **Why?**
- ◆ What about use a computer?
- ◆ What about in class? At work? While driving a bus?



Solutions and Policies

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- ◆ What legal solutions are there?
 - ◆ How well do drinking and driving laws work?
- ◆ Social?
 - ◆ How well do DD programs work?
- ◆ Technical?
 - ◆ Jammers? Phone software? Car software?
- ◆ Who would object to each possibility?
- ◆ Why?



Discussion Roles

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- ◆ Roles:
 - ◆ Driver
 - ◆ Passenger
 - ◆ Phone manufacturer
 - ◆ Car manufacturer
 - ◆ NTSB member
 - ◆ Insurance company
- ◆ And identify your...
 - ◆ Needs (and wants)
 - ◆ Rights
 - ◆ Consequences
 - ◆ Tradeoffs
- ◆ Then recommend action
 - ◆ Change? Require? Ignore? Ban?

Having identified your preferred course of action, pitch it to your colleagues. What changes can you make to make it mutually acceptable? Can you converge on a single plan?