Surveillance Means Security: Remixed War Propaganda

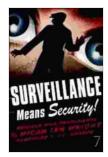
In the wake of the 9/11 attacks, the United States government embarked on a massive campaign of domestic surveillance, arguing that it was necessary to prevent future terrorist attacks. This surveillance has continued unabated for over two decades, and has only intensified in recent years with the advent of new technologies like facial recognition and artificial intelligence.

The government has justified this surveillance by claiming that it is necessary to keep the country safe. However, critics argue that the government is using this surveillance to control its citizens and quash dissent. They point to the fact that the government has repeatedly used surveillance to target activists, journalists, and political opponents.

The History of Surveillance

Surveillance has been used by governments for centuries to maintain control over their populations. In the United States, surveillance was used to suppress dissent during the Cold War era. The FBI's COINTELPRO program targeted activists, civil rights leaders, and political opponents. The CIA also conducted a program of domestic surveillance known as Operation CHAOS.

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In the wake of the 9/11 attacks, the government expanded its surveillance capabilities dramatically. The Patriot Act gave the government broad new powers to collect data on its citizens. The National Security Agency (NSA) began collecting data on all phone calls and emails in the United States.

The Dangers of Surveillance

Surveillance can be used to control people's behavior and suppress dissent. The government can use surveillance to track people's movements, monitor their communications, and collect data on their personal lives. This information can be used to target people for arrest, prosecution, or blackmail.

Surveillance can also be used to create a chilling effect on free speech. People may be less likely to speak out against the government or engage in political activity if they know that they are being watched. This can lead to a less democratic and less free society.

The Case for Surveillance

The government argues that surveillance is necessary to keep the country safe. The government claims that surveillance has helped to prevent

terrorist attacks and catch criminals. However, there is little evidence to support these claims.

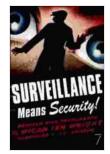
In fact, some studies have shown that surveillance can actually make people less safe. For example, a study by the University of Chicago found that surveillance can lead to racial profiling and wrongful arrests.

The Future of Surveillance

It is clear that the government's surveillance program is a threat to our civil liberties. The government must take steps to limit its surveillance powers and protect the privacy of its citizens.

There are a number of things that the government can do to limit its surveillance powers. First, the government should repeal the Patriot Act and other laws that give it broad surveillance powers. Second, the government should create a new independent privacy oversight board to review the government's surveillance activities. Third, the government should invest in new technologies to protect the privacy of its citizens.

The future of surveillance is uncertain. However, it is clear that the government must take steps to limit its surveillance powers and protect the privacy of its citizens.



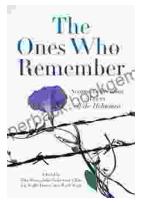
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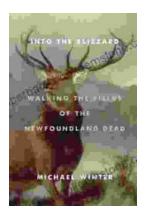
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