Some last thoughts…

Peter Singer's ethical catastrophes: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=307gysA18_E&t=292s

Morals vs Ethics

- **Morals** – Principles or habits relating to right or wrong conduct, based on an individual's own compass of right and wrong.

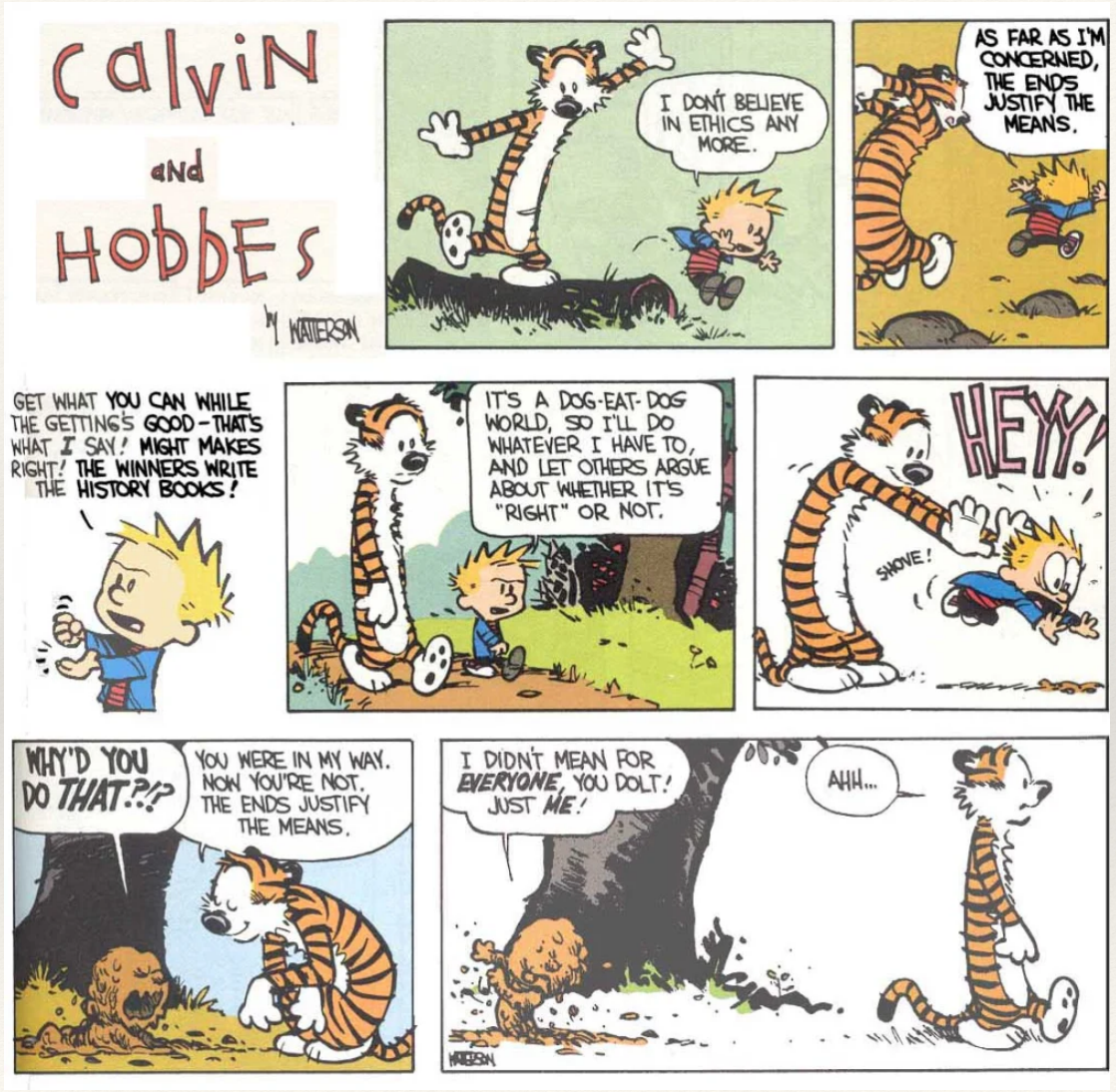
- **Ethics** – Rules of conduct in a particular culture or group recognized by an external source or social system. For example, a medical code of ethics that medical professionals must follow.

Ethical frameworks

Features	Utilitarian	Kant	Virtue Ethics
Morality	Collective utility	Rational principles	Human nature
Focus	Focus	Focus	Focus
Ideal outcome	Greatest happiness for greater number	Rational, autonomous moral agent	Flourishing through virtue
Ethical foundation	Empirical, outcome-based	Rational, deontological	Teleological, based on human nature
View on society	Collective welfare prioritized	Moral duty to others, societal rules	Balanced life within society

Ethical frameworks+Nietzsche

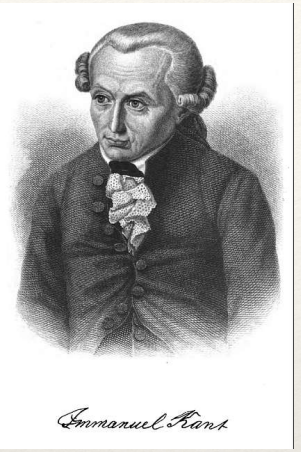
Features	Utilitarian	Kant	Virtue Ethics	Nietzsche
Morality	Collective utility	Rational principles	Human nature	Individual creativity
Focus	Focus	Focus	Focus	Focus
Ideal outcome	Greatest happiness for greater number	Rational, autonomous moral agent	Flourishing through virtue	The Ubermensch (Self creation, mastery over self)
Ethical foundation	Empirical, outcome-based	Rational, deontological	Teleological, based on human nature	Existential, based on individual power and creativity
View on society	Collective welfare prioritized	Moral duty to others, societal rules	Balanced life within society	Society's norms are restrictive; focus on individual greatness


Calvin
and
Hobbes
by WATTERSON
I DON'T BELIEVE IN ETHICS ANY MORE.
AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, THE ENDS JUSTIFY THE MEANS.
GET WHAT YOU CAN WHILE THE GETTING'S GOOD - THAT'S WHAT I SAY! MIGHT MAKES RIGHT! THE WINNERS WRITE THE HISTORY BOOKS!
IT'S A DOG-EAT-DOG WORLD, SO I'LL DO WHATEVER I HAVE TO, AND LET OTHERS ARGUE ABOUT WHETHER IT'S "RIGHT" OR NOT.
HEY!
SHOVE!
WHY'D YOU DO THAT?!?
YOU WERE IN MY WAY. NOW YOU'RE NOT. THE ENDS JUSTIFY THE MEANS.
I DIDN'T MEAN FOR EVERYONE, YOU DOLT! JUST ME!
AHH...

Morals and Emotion

Is Kant's definition of morality too stringent?

It is fine to have emotions and inclinations when thinking about an action, as long as they do not provide the reasons for acting.



"Were we incapable of empathy – of putting ourselves in the position of others and seeing that their suffering is like our own – then ethical reasoning would lead nowhere. If emotion without reason is blind, then reason without emotion is impotent."

Peter Singer

Ian Barbour's views of technology

Liberator	Threat	Instrument of Power
Higher living standards (*medicines, sanitation, nutrition, reduced manual labor*)	Uniformity (*standardized products, lack of individuality*)	Technology and power (*technology is neither good nor evil*)
Opportunity for choice (*mobility, birth control,…*)	Narrow criteria of efficiency (*efficiency is defined in terms of quantity where human values are overlooked*)	Redirection of technology (*political structures can redirect technology to do more good*)
More leisure (*education, arts, entertainment, sport,…*)	Alienation (*from the process of work, the product of work*)	Social construction of technology (*science, society, and technology are mutually reciprocal in influence*)
Better communications (radio, TV, phone, email,…)	Uncontrollability (*technology takes on a life on its own; we lose control*)	

The ethics of labor

- property (assets) as an indicator of (corporate) prosperity
- capitalist (business) activity understood as voluntary exchanges of property

Property is the outcome of the application of one's own labour to common resource

- I own myself
- therefore I own my labour

This works to everyone's benefit because:

- we make things more useful by working on them
- and everyone benefits when we make things more useful

John Locke

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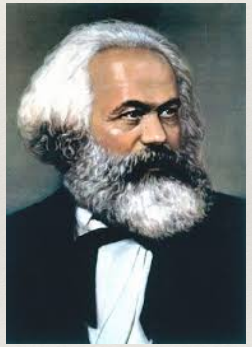
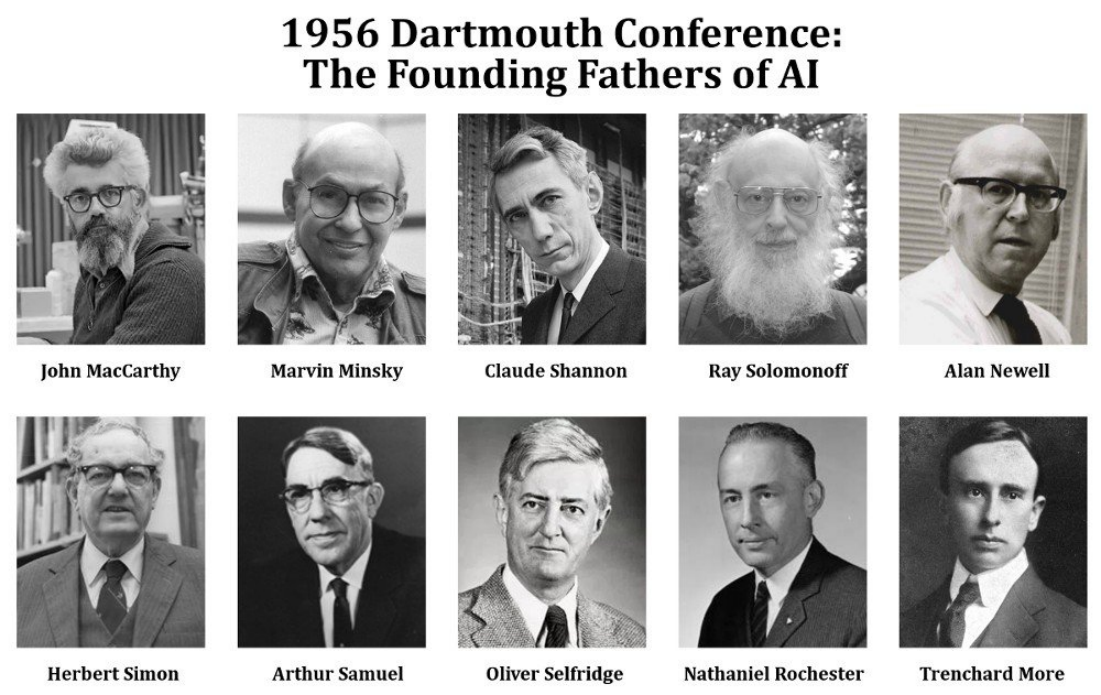
"The right of man to property is the right to enjoy his possessions and dispose of the same arbitrarily, without regard for other men, independently from society, the right of selfishness"

- business creates **surplus value** by combining resources
- labour makes the biggest contribution to the creation of surplus value
- but most of this surplus value is kept by the owners of the business *(which Marx sees as exploitation of workers by owners)*

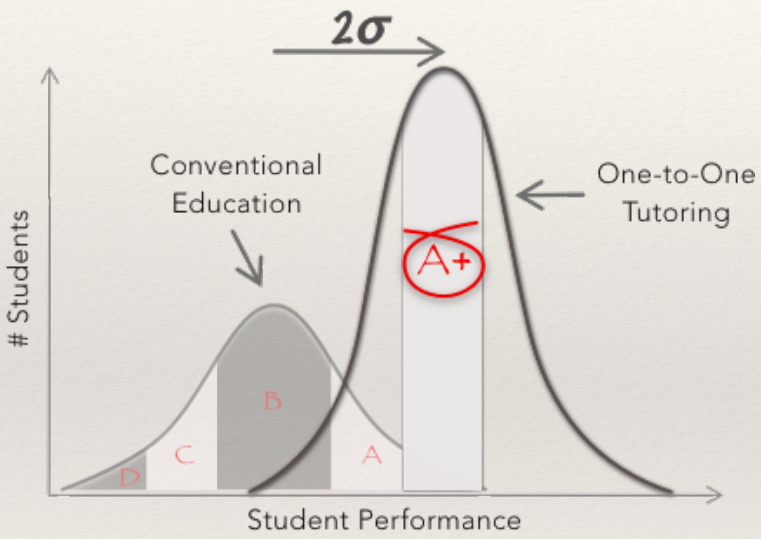


Karl Marx

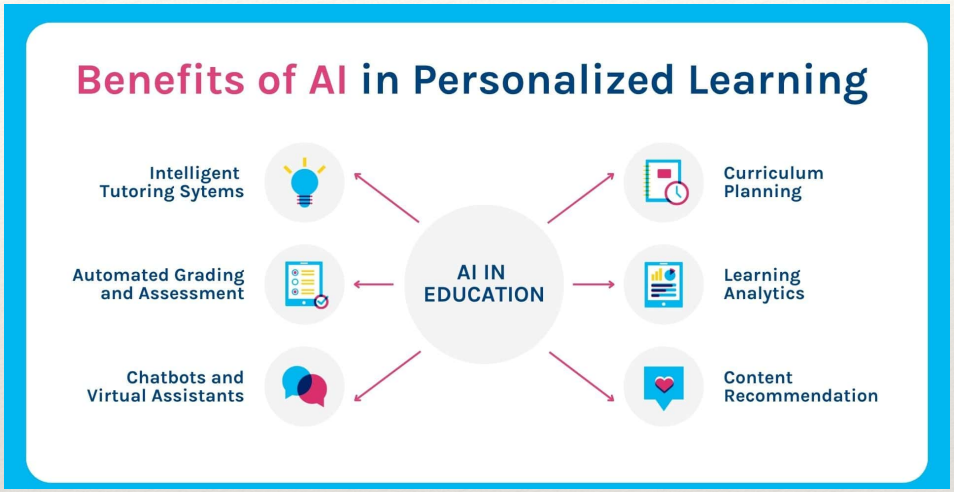
Birth of AI: 1956



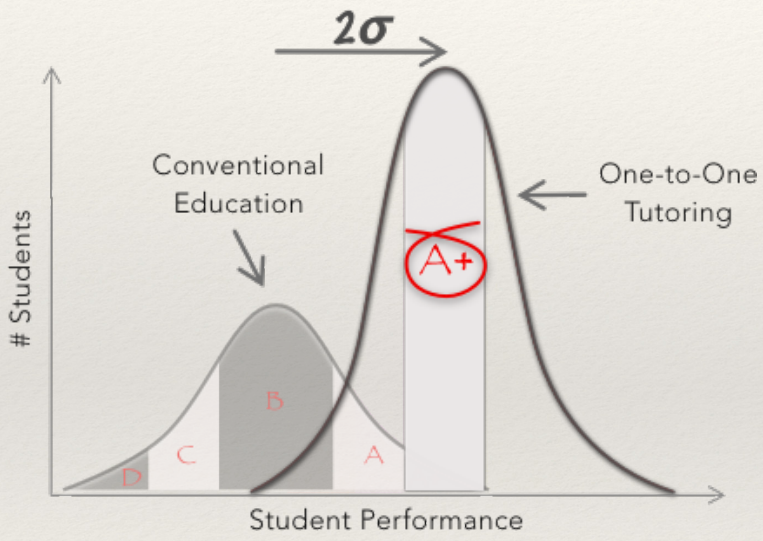
AI: Education



Bloom, the 2 sigma problem (1984)



AI: Education



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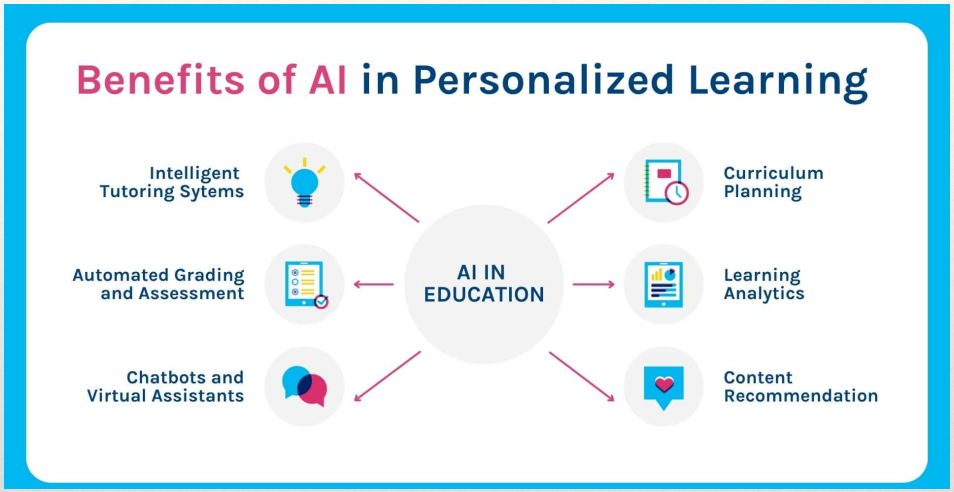


Concerns:

- *Who benefits from AI in education? Who might be left behind?*
- *What happens to student data when using AI tools?*
- *How does AI reshape the teacher-student relationship?*
- *What constitutes academic integrity in an AI-enhanced classroom?*

AI: Reward hacking

How can we ensure that an AI agent won't game its reward function?

Link to many problematic examples

AI: Biases

Major learning lessons for AI

Machines are not the one producing the bias

Machines are trained by humans who are biased. But how do we create the machine as immune to human mistakes as possible?

The importance of data

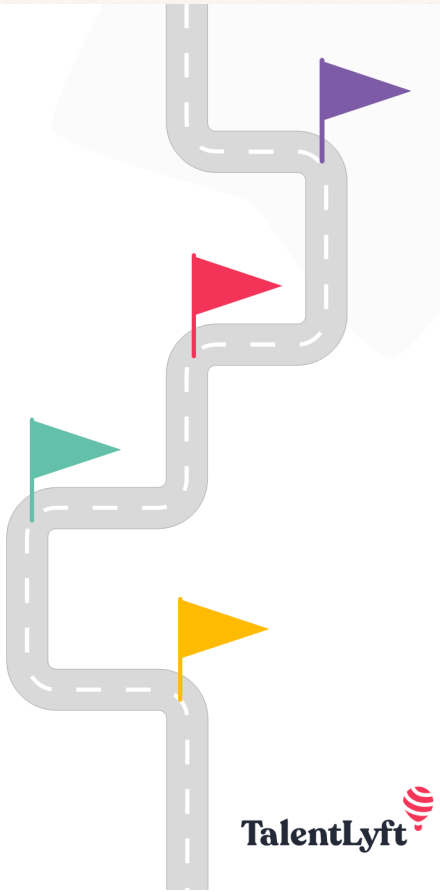
Using only the data from its previous hiring's isn't enough to feed the software for the sake of diversity.

Making future decisions based on past events

Using the data from the past for building the recruitment software of the future represents a setback for the company. Policies, hiring trends, and procedures are changing dramatically over the course of one decade.

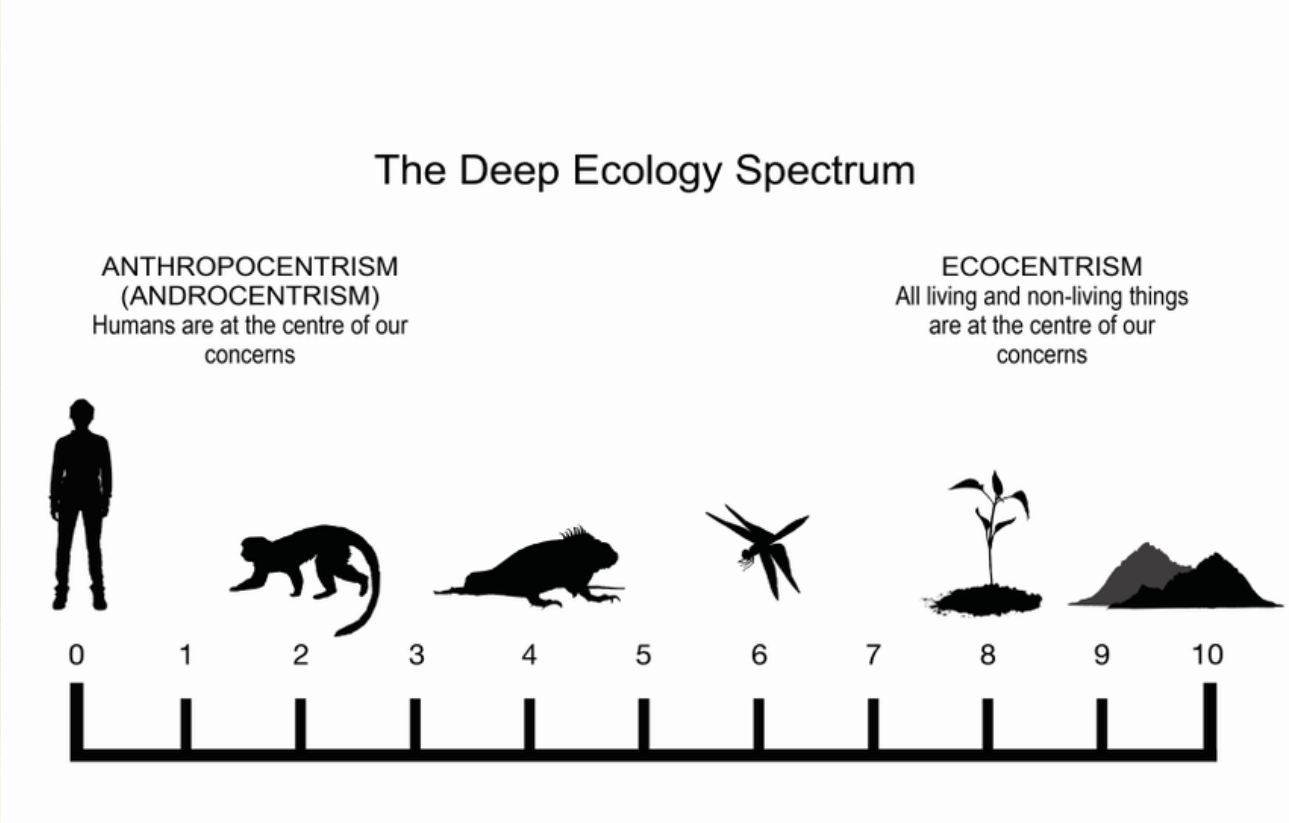
Always own your mistakes

Mistakes will happen, but only truly owning them can be a good learning lesson for the future. It's necessary to analyze every step of the way and to be transparent with your mistakes in order to maximize the learning processes.



TalentLyft

Environmental Ethics



The corporation

The corporation

In a corporation, the board of directors has a fiduciary duty to the shareholders, requiring the board to make decisions in the best interest of shareholders.

- ***Definition***
  A ***fiduciary duty*** is a legal obligation to act in the best interests of another party. In the context of a company, this means that directors and officers have a legal responsibility to act in the interests of the company's shareholders.

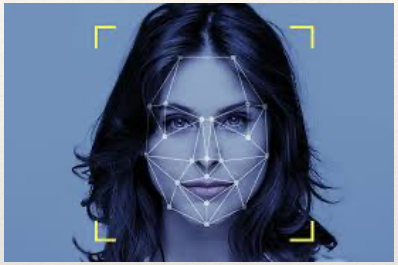
- ***Purpose***
  Fiduciary duties are a key part of corporate governance and investment law. They help to maintain ethical standards, protect shareholders' rights, and ensure fair business practices.

What about Computer Science?

Mobile phones

The distraction economy

Face recognition



Surveillance, biases

Autonomous drones

Autonomous killing machines

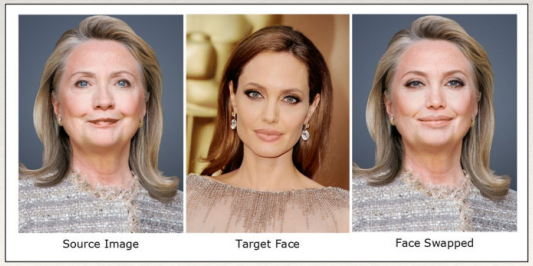
Personalized advertisements

Reducing autonomy, threatening democracy

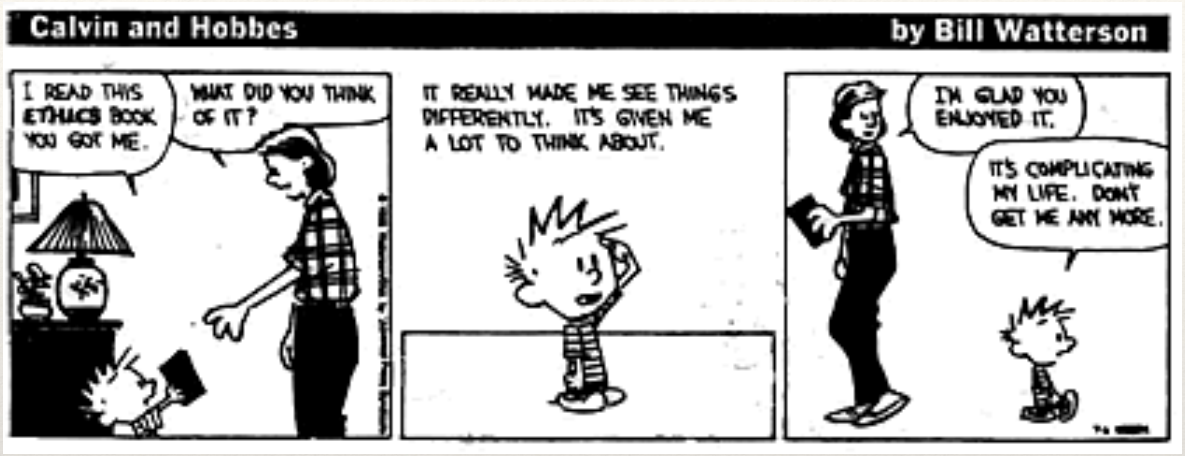
Improving security

Mass surveillance; restricting liberty

Creativity



Deception; Misinformation, damages


Calvin and Hobbes
by Bill Watterson
I READ THIS ETHICS BOOK. YOU GOT ME.
WHAT DID YOU THINK OF IT?
IT REALLY MADE ME SEE THINGS DIFFERENTLY. IT'S GIVEN ME A LOT TO THINK ABOUT.
I'M GLAD YOU ENJOYED IT.
IT'S COMPLICATING MY LIFE. DON'T GET ME ANY MORE.