

## Document 1

### 1984 and our modern surveillance society

The world of 1984 is a perfect metaphor for today. For 29 years after 1984 we really thought that western democracies were safe, powerful and we were all living in freedom. Then last year when the Snowden revelations came out it started to become clearer and clearer that in fact 1984<sup>1</sup> wasn't far off the mark; that the NSA (National Security Agency) and its associated organizations were all colluding in massive wide-scale surveillance of populations and specific targeted surveillance of world leaders.

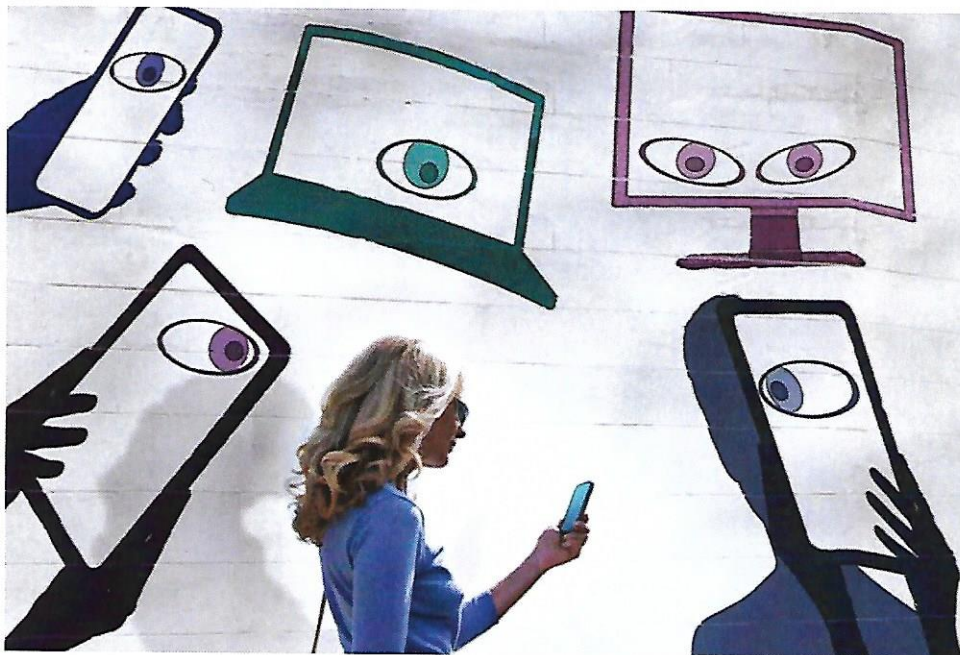
Much of our modern digital existence is now centered firmly around some form of surveillance; a social media platform like Facebook, for instance, only works the way it does because its users allow the company to trawl their personal data in return for recommendation-based services.

'Data is all around us and we are constantly looking for ways to join it together. While we aren't being monitored visually, we are increasingly giving away large amounts of personal information in terms of our location,' he says 'This isn't a new phenomenon. The thing that's changed is that the volume of information that we are putting out about ourselves has created new opportunities. Then the question is "where is the balance?"'

Anthony Funnel, *abc.net*, , July 29, 2014

1. 1984: an anticipation novel by George Orwell

## Document 2



**Image:** Civil libertarians and even technology companies are increasingly worried about government surveillance and data use. (Andrew Bret Wallis/ Photographer's Choice)

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