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### Society Beware: The Truth Behind Artificial Intelligence

Consider a technology that could artificially generate any knowledge, writing, image, video, or voice recording wanted with just a small input of information and a quick click of a button. Imagine how powerful one could be with this type of technology. One would be able to find answers to every homework question, write a research paper without doing any research, or even generate a personalized video of a famous celebrity. Technology like this seems both magnificent and unreal; however, this type of technology is extremely real, and many members of the general population have access to this technology. This technology is known as generative artificial intelligence, or generative AI. The general population should be heavily weary of the technology's power. The general population should consider putting restrictions on generative artificial intelligence first because generative AI damages the educational development of students, second because generative AI can be used to mislead people, and third because generative AI can cause damage to a person's reputation.

To gain a full understanding of the severity of generative AI, it is crucial to understand the history and background information of this technology. To begin, generative AI falls under the category of artificial intelligence. Artificial intelligence is a wide variety of technologies that simulate human-level intelligence and actions. AI is common in many areas of our society: face recognition on phones, virtual video games, and all voice command technologies, such as Alexa or Siri use AI. Although AI seems to be an advanced, modern technology, generative AI has been present within our society for nearly a century. One of the most significant milestones

behind the creation of artificial intelligence was the “Turning Test.” The “Turning Test” was a test conducted by Alan Turning in 1950. The test revolved around the experiment of convincing a human that a computer was a fellow human being through exchanging a text conversation. Although the “Turning Test” was unsuccessful, the experiment acted as a significant milestone for the creation of many AI technologies present today (Mackenzie).

Continuing the background and definition of this technology, generative AI is a type of artificial intelligence which generates any information, image, voice-recording, or writing through the input of information. This input information must relate to the content that one wishes to generate. For example, if one wished to generate a research paper concerning climate change, one would input into a generative AI technology, “write a research paper about climate change.” Then, within seconds, a full research paper would be presented about the causes, effects, and solutions to climate change. Furthermore, if one wished to generate a video, picture, or voice recording of another person, one would simply input pictures, voice recordings, and videos then would input the command, such as, “make a video, using this information of a person riding a bike.” Therefore, the process of inputting information and providing a command are the basic steps necessary to work with any type of generative AI technology.

As to the opposing viewpoint, there are many people within the general population who support the free and unrestricted usage of generative artificial intelligence. Many people who support the usage of this technology fixate on the positives that result from generative AI.

The first opposing viewpoint analyzes the positive effect that generative AI may have on students. A recent article analyzing the relationship between the classroom and generative AI states, “From AI tutors to smart classrooms, AI-based technologies are starting to augment teaching and learning experiences in novel ways” (Michalowski). To explain, many people supporting generative AI in classrooms have a great appreciation and love for the many

advantages that AI brings academically. People supporting generative AI technologies bring up the advantages of incorporating these technologies into nursing students' education.

Many generative AI technologies could drastically help nursing students academically. Specific generative AI technologies, such as ChatGPT, which allows users to generate writing and knowledge, may aid nursing students with assignments, as far as writing and structuring essays. Furthermore, generative AI could provide nursing students with interactive simulations and decision-making processes.

Generative AI could provide nursing students with interactive simulations and decision-making processes because this technology can create a diverse and complex learning environment. Generative AI technology could create an interactive, real-life nursing situation through the technology's ability to generate any image. For example, this situation could be one in which there was an emergency with a patient. The nursing student would interact with generative AI technology to resolve this issue using medical techniques and knowledge. Nursing students would benefit from this by having the ability to experience real-life nursing situations, which involve high stress and quick thinking. Using generative AI to generate these experiences would eliminate any risks that might come with new nurses and their decision-making in real life situations.

The second opposing viewpoint is generative AI's ability to spark creativity. Generative AI can quite literally generate any idea or thought within a matter of seconds. This factor greatly aids the creation of new art forms and ideas. Many well-known companies have already begun utilizing this. In fact, the famous streaming service, Netflix, used AI generated images as background pictures in a recent cartoon (Brassell). Netflix proves that even large, popular companies are using AI for their products and content, as it helps these companies create art content efficiently. Furthermore, this effect has been used increasingly amongst high school art

assignments. In fact, I myself was given an assignment which required the usage of AI generated images in a previous high school history class.

Finally, the third opposing viewpoint involves generative AI's ability to offer solutions. When considering generative AI in the work force, many uses are present. In particular, generative AI's ability to offer management solutions and theories. Famous businessmen, such as Elon Musk and Bill Gates highlighted the many positive effects that generative AI would have in the work industry. To explain, many businesses run into issues concerning management and scheduling; however, with generative AI technologies, these issues can be quickly resolved through this technology's ability to offer logical solutions and management theories (Korzynski). This characteristic of AI could create a large positive impact on businesses, aiding companies' workers and creating a better work environment.

An additional way that generative AI can aid businesses and the work environment is through the fact that generative AI can act as a customer service aid and machine. Businesses can incorporate generative technology into their customer service by allowing this technology to interact with customers. For example, customers looking for information and help over the phone can quickly gain the answers needed through generative technology. Incorporating generative AI into this area of the business world greatly increases the resolution of problems concerning customers and offers a much easier and quicker way to reach clients (Korzynski). As addressed, there are many positive effects which are associated with the usage and incorporation of generative AI. However, I disagree.

First of all, the general population should consider putting restrictions on generative artificial intelligence because generative AI damages the educational development of students. As stated above, generative AI can generate any writing with a simple command. For example, if one wished to write an essay concerning the war in Gaza, one would give a generative AI

technology the command to “write me a research essay on the conflict and war in Gaza”. This generative AI feature seems convenient, however, when incorporating this technology into the academic journey of students, much is at risk.

To explain how generative AI can damage the educational development of students, it is necessary to look at what specific generative AI technology is present within the school system. The most common generative AI technology is known as ChatGPT. ChatGPT is a generative AI technology which works to generate writing and answers. ChatGPT is heavily present within the educational field. To fully understand how present this technology is, I decided to interview a high school student. The high school student I interviewed chose to remain anonymous, requesting to go by “Smith.” This student is 16 years of age and is a sophomore in high school at a Montgomery County Public School. When I questioned how many students used ChatGPT for assignments, my interviewee responded with, “...Most people I know have used ChatGPT in nearly all their assignments...” (Smith). Then I questioned how many students were able to use this technology without being caught. My interviewee explained, “...Many students that use ChatGPT don’t get caught...” (Smith). I discovered that ChatGPT is not only heavily incorporated into the school system, but this generative AI technology is used regularly amongst students. Students use ChatGPT to write essays and answer homework questions.

Although my interview showed that most students who use generative AI do not get caught, I have seen firsthand the negative repercussions of using ChatGPT for homework assignments. The previous semester, I attended an English 101 class. At the end of the semester, my English class was assigned a short paper on what we learned that semester. A young student in my class decided to entirely use ChatGPT to write this paper and shortly submitted the essay after. My English professor discovered this heinous act of plagiarism and not only gave the student a zero for the essay, but also reported the student to the school board.

The reason why generative artificial intelligence is severely destroying and damaging the educational development of students is because it allows students to complete homework assignments without doing any work, much less learning anything. As seen in my interview and real-life example of generative AI affecting educational development, it is clear that students have become reliant on this technology. Using ChatGPT and other generative technologies is plagiarism. Generative AI encourages students to become lazy and unresourceful. The future of our world and society rests in the hands of young students, if these students are not up to par in their education, society could face severe consequences. Thus, the general population should consider putting restrictions on generative AI because this technology damages the educational development of students.

Not only should the general population consider putting restrictions on generative artificial intelligence because this technology affects the educational development of students, but also, secondly, because generative AI can be used to mislead the general population. It is understood that generative AI can generate any visual or virtual information; this factor can be used for unethical purposes, or rather, to spread false information. Generative AI creating fake news and false information negatively impacts both the general population, who are tricked into believing lies, as well as the individuals who are being lied about. To understand this issue further, it is necessary to know how generative AI creates this issue.

To begin, fake news and false information generated from AI is a regularly used trick to grab an audience's attention to consume content. (Sandrini and Somogyi). In other words, many news outlets have a legitimate motive for incorporating AI generated news into their news stories and articles, to make more money from the general public. Generative AI being used to mislead individuals is blatantly unethical; however, in the world of making money, there is little room for

ethics and truth. Mainly, there are two scales which involve the general population being misled by false information generated by AI.

The first scale is a smaller scale, one which only affects a specific group of people. The smaller scale concerns mostly the academic integrity of students. To explain, as mentioned in the first reason of this research paper, students have increased the usage and incorporation of generative AI technology into their writing and schoolwork. AI technologies, like ChatGPT, are far from 100% accurate; these technologies are very much prone to mistakes. Thus, when students use these AI technologies in their assignments, there is a high potential for false information to be incorporated into this schoolwork. Generative AI creating false data and information to be used by students impacts the educational field by creating an environment based on inaccurate information.

Furthermore, a recent article concerning AI technologies and the education of students, specifically nursing students, states, "...Integrating generative AI in nursing education also presents challenges, including academic integrity issues, the potential for plagiarism and copyright infringements, ethical implications, and the risk of producing misinformation..." (Campbell). This article not only confirms that AI technologies can generate false information, but also suggests a grave worry, that students studying for essential, highly important careers are not being properly educated due to generative AI. Therefore, it is necessary for the general population to put restrictions on generative AI because this technology can wrongly inform and produce false information which is consumed and used by students.

The second scale in which generative AI misleads individuals concerns a much more public and widespread group of people. As stated, many news outlets will incorporate and spread false news through generative AI. These false news stories reach large audiences and create a great impact within society. Continuing, much media is focused and revolves around the

lives of particular people, such as politicians, celebrities, and various other public figures. These highlighted people of society are at risk of being falsely presented through generative AI information.

For example, in 2023, a picture of Pope Francis, a significant public and religious figure, went viral across all media platforms. The picture of Pope Francis showed him dressed head to toe in modern, all white, streetwear, contradictory to his usual, traditional garments. (Ovide). Media sources blasted the picture everywhere; news outlets gained attention from thousands of people, perplexed by the picture. The public was shocked and amazed at the unexpected version of the Pope. However, it wasn't long before people began to question the truthfulness of the photo. It was soon discovered that the picture of the Pope in streetwear was completely AI generated. Not only was the public shocked to find out that the Pope does not actually wear this form of attire, but the public was dumbfounded about how real the generated photo looked. This recent example confirms that false AI generated information is easily spread, believable, and can alter the opinions and beliefs that others may have for an individual.

Therefore, the general population should consider putting restrictions on generative AI because this technology misleads the general population. Additionally, the consumption of AI false information can be very damaging to the minds of individuals and raise issues and concerns based on false information.

So far, this essay has proven that the general population should consider putting restrictions on generative artificial intelligence firstly, because this technology negatively impacts the educational development of students and secondly because this technology can be used to mislead the general population. Thirdly, the general population should consider putting restrictions on generative AI because this technology can damage the reputation of individuals. To explain, the damaging of an individual's reputation involves the destruction of an individual's



moral and social appearance. Furthermore, when an individual's reputation is tainted or damaged, people may begin changing the way they treat that individual, along with a negative alteration of their personal and group opinions about that individual. To understand this, it is necessary to note that generative AI can create any visual or verbal content through the input of certain information. As stated in the beginning of this essay, generating content through AI is simple; all one needs is to input multiple videos, pictures, or voice recordings of a person and then command the AI technology to generate a video, voice recording, or picture using that information. AI's ability to generate any content is something which can be drastically taken advantage of. Thus, it is a highly realistic outcome for generative AI to be used to negatively impact the appearance of individuals. There are two particular strategies in which AI can be used to damage a person's image and reputation.

The first way that generative AI can damage a person's reputation is through creating content which misrepresents or lies about an individual. To explain, in the world of politics, there are many agendas and there is little that competing politicians are not willing to do to gain power. Politicians with access to generative AI can generate negative content about their competitors. In other words, a politician can generate a video or voice recording of another politician speaking controversial or negative statements. Then, this content could be spread widely out into the media for the general population to see. Therefore, the image and reputation of that politician would be drastically damaged.

To understand how politicians' reputation can be damaged through generative AI, it is necessary to note a particular incident which occurred earlier this year. On the eve of the New Hampshire primary, which is the first of many presidential election sessions, many New Hampshire citizens received a disturbing phone call. The phone call appeared to be Joe Biden himself, instructing voters to not vote and save their vote for the November election (Stern).

This message made Joe Biden appear as though he did not support election voting, which caused damage to his reputation. Later, it was discovered that this Joe Biden voiced message was in fact AI generated. Although the person who created this message is unknown, this example proves how politicians may have their reputations damaged through generative AI.

The second strategy in which generative AI can damage a person's reputation is through the creation of explicit or pornographic images generated using the body or face of an individual. A recent article concerning the usage of generative AI to create explicit images states, "As AI-powered image generators have become more accessible, so have websites that digitally remove the clothes of people in photos." (Haskins). To explain, not only have generative AI technologies become accessible to nearly anyone in our society, but also, certain individuals of our society are using this technology to exploit others. The issue of generative AI creating pornographic images is an extremely dangerous issue as degenerates of our society could use generative AI to create inappropriate images of unconsented individuals, as well as children.

Children who fall victim to the creation of AI generated pornographic images become targets to pedophiles, or individuals who are sexually attracted to young children. Pedophiles within our nation will be able to use generative AI to exploit young children and further damage the moral integrity of our society. A recent investigation concerning the creation of minor pornographic images uncovered a disturbing discovery. The investigation found that certain individuals were using hundreds of images of child sexual abuse as data input for generative AI technologies (Thiel). Hence, this investigation discovered that individuals were generating child pornography through generative AI. This act is not only heinous, but also further encourages pedophiles to pursue their fantasies involving young children.

Adult individuals can fall victim to the creation of AI generated pornographic images. Not only is the creation of pornographic images using the face and body of an individual

humiliating and traumatizing, but these images could also severely damage the image and reputation of that person (Mahdawi). Because generative AI content is concerningly realistic, people may believe that AI pornographic images of an individual are real. Thus, a person who has fallen victim to AI could lose job opportunities and relationships. This issue is common, and many people's reputations have been affected because of generative AI. In fact, thousands of celebrities, including well known singer, Taylor Swift, have fallen victim to AI pornographic images made using their face and body. (Segall).

Therefore, the general population should consider putting restrictions on generative AI because this technology can damage the reputation of individuals. Additionally, the usage of generative AI to exploit children along with adults either through misrepresentation or explicit images stands as another significant reason for the general population to restrain the usage of generative AI.

In conclusion, the general population should consider putting restrictions on generative artificial intelligence, first because generative AI damages the educational development of students, second because generative AI can be used to mislead people, and third, because generative AI can cause damage to a person's reputation. Generative AI can be used in many ways to cause chaos; from our nation's children and students to our nation's leaders and citizens, there is little that generative AI does not damage. There is a danger to allowing technology to rule our society, and generative AI stands as a reminder and example of this. The greatest threat to our society is one which is self-inflicted, one which involves the general public's usage of generative artificial intelligence.

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