

Assignment 2: Movie or Book Review

As the course syllabus describes:

There are so many wonderful books and films that deal with privacy issues in one way or another in all sorts of genres – science fiction, drama, documentary – that relate in one way or another to the issues we will be discussing and the materials to which you will be exposed. I will give you a preliminary list of both – although I will be open to other suggestions – and your job will be to do a review (of no more than 1500 words) that connects the book or film content to relevant readings and videos we consume in the course

Some suggestions discussed in class and listed in a class email were:

| Possible Books | Possible Films |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1984 by George Orwell• Mindf*ck by Christopher Wylie• Zucked by Robert McNamee• No Place to Hide by Glenn Greenwald• Permanent Record by Edward Snowden• Privacy in the Age of Big Data• Nothing to Hide by Daniel Solove• The Trial by Franz Kafka• Beyond Freedom and Dignity by BF Skinner• Brave New World by Aldous Huxley | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1984 (1984)• Citizenfour (2014)• The Conversation (1974)• Brazil (1985)• Minority Report (2002)• The Social Network (2010)• The Truman Show (1998)• Enemy of the State (1998)• Gattaca (1997)• The Lives of Others (2006) |

In the case of more documentary films and books, your job will be to review some aspect of its contents and to ensure that review weaves the positions put forth in relevant course materials -- readings, media and videos – into that review. You might show parallels or highlight contrasts (or both) between the book or film and the course materials. In some cases, the books would involve going in greater depth for a particular source you only saw a brief glimpse of in class (e.g., Wylie, Snowden, Greenwald, McNamee); in that instance you would want to integrate the longer argument or position with relevant course materials.

In the case of more fictional films and books, there might be a central theme of the book that you relate metaphorically to some portion of the course. A film like *Minority Report*, for example, which deals with the prediction of crime, could be reviewed by comparing the world it puts forward to the way related issues are discussed in the course materials dealing with algorithms. Alternatively, the world that Franz Kafka's *The Trial* portrays could be considered in light of the concerns raised by Zuboff regarding the surveillance economy.

If you've chosen a book or film and are at the point of wondering where/how to connect it to the course, don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like a nudge regarding direction.

This assignment is due by 11:59:59 on Friday, November 20. Please send it to me at palys@sfu.ca and use the following convention to name the file you send me:

<Crim417_lastname_firstname_TitleOfFilmOrBook.format> where format is whatever the format is of the file you send (e.g., docx, pdf)