

Ethics in a digital age

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South Australian Government Entry Point



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WHAT'S  IN GOVERNMENT



My Identity

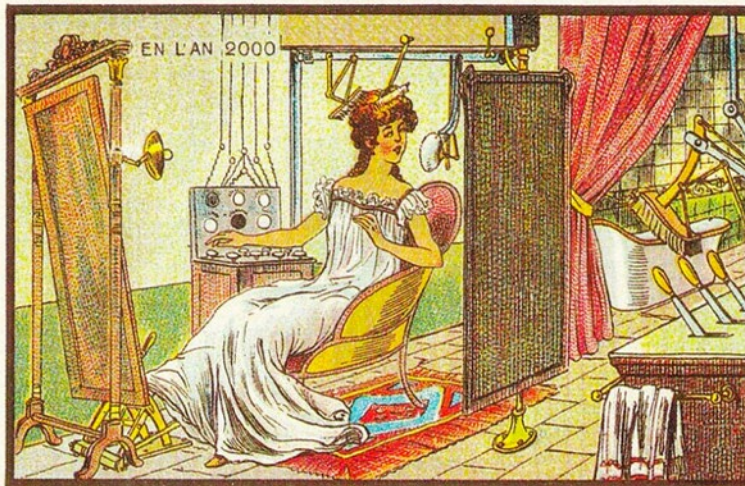


Nicole Smith
17 Jerlides Street
Darby 9341 Australia

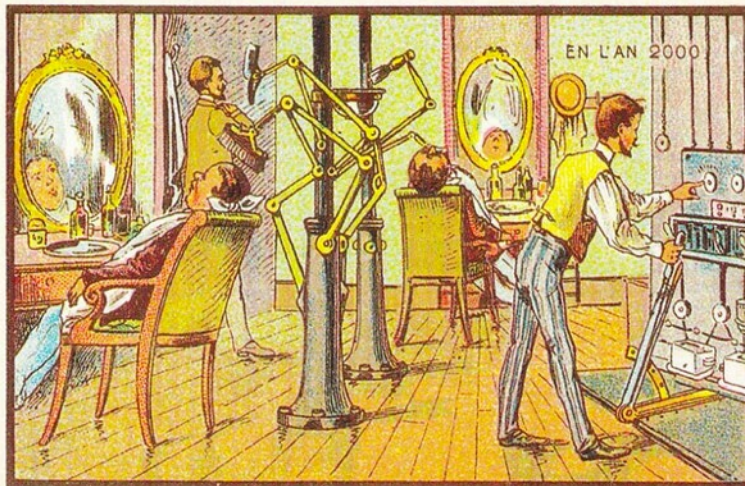




Back to the Future II



Madame à sa Toilette.



Le Barbier nouveau Jeu.



'A digital mesh'

Government

Healthcare

Services

Social media

Retail

Smart city

Digital advances are
rearchitecting society.

We are all participants in this
transition, whether we like it
or not.

Hi.

I'm Darren Menachemson from ThinkPlace, a public good innovation organisation.

We apply design thinking to the design of law, policy, programs, services and digital products, around the world.

Better, evidence-driven policy

Better understanding of risk and priorities

More coordinated services – e.g. birth, bereavements

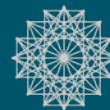
Better service targeting

Smarter regulatory interventions

Greater convenience

More efficient administration

What the opportunity looks like for Government



Agency integration



Big data

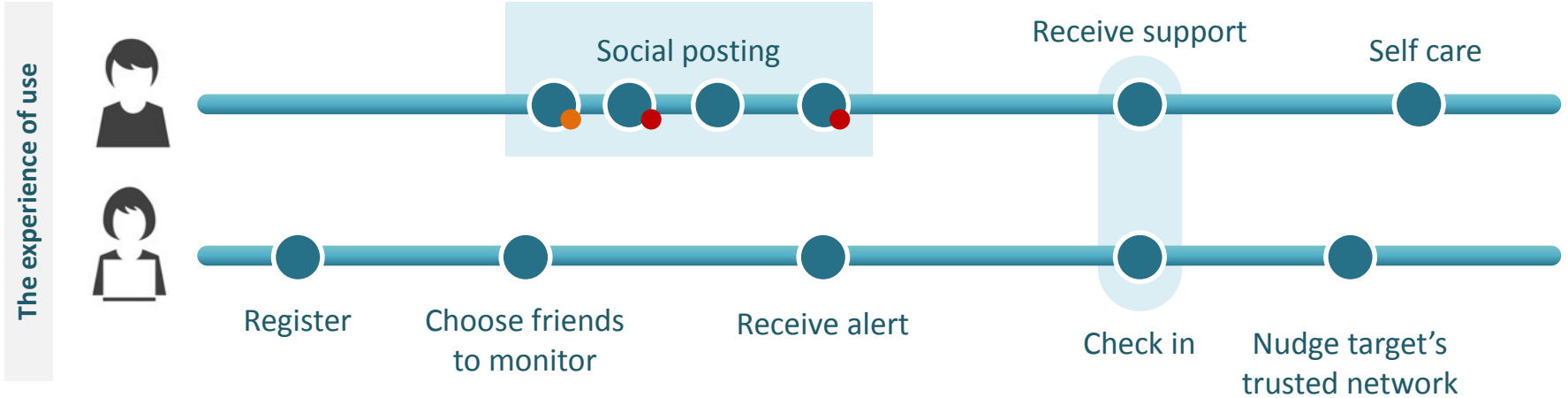


Artificial intelligence

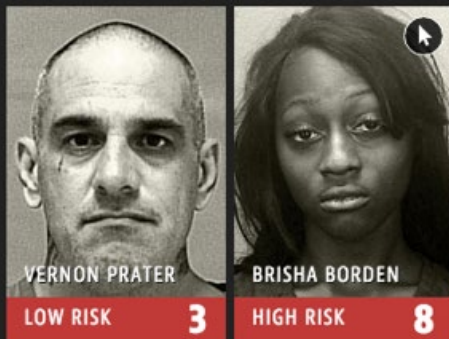
Ethical challenge

**How do we guard against
bias and unintended
consequences?**

Samaritan's Radar app

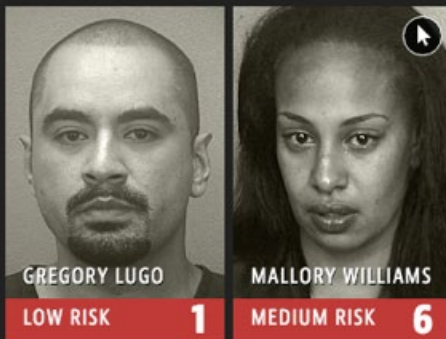


Two Petty Theft Arrests



Borden was rated high risk for future crime after she and a friend took a kid's bike and scooter that were sitting outside. She did not reoffend.

Two DUI Arrests



Lugo crashed his Lincoln Navigator into a Toyota Camry while drunk. He was rated as a low risk of reoffending despite the fact that it was at least his fourth DUI.

Two Drug Possession Arrests



Fugett was rated low risk after being arrested with cocaine and marijuana. He was arrested three times on drug charges after that.

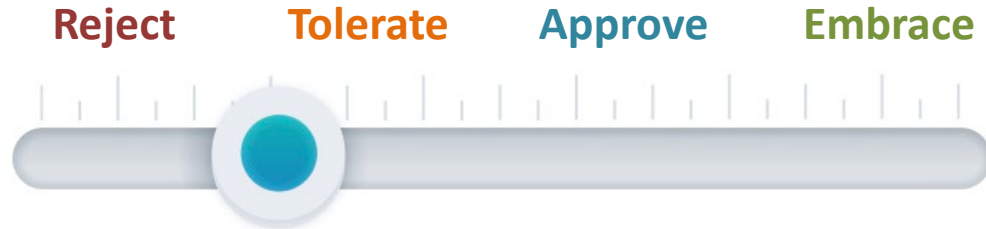
Prediction Fails Differently for Black Defendants

	WHITE	AFRICAN AMERICAN
Labeled Higher Risk, But Didn't Re-Offend	23.5%	44.9%
Labeled Lower Risk, Yet Did Re-Offend	47.7%	28.0%

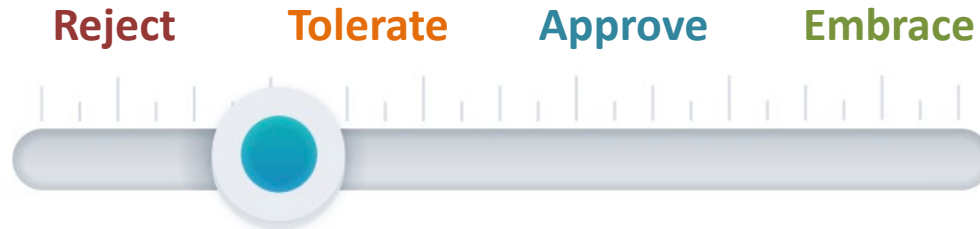
Ethical challenge

**How do we make sure
that we are acting within
our social license?**

Social licence (aka community trust)



Social licence (aka community trust)



Trust - a willingness to be vulnerable to risk or loss through the actions of another

(Thomson and Joyce, 2008)

Ethical challenge

**How do we make judgements
where there is no clear
“right” or “wrong”?**



The really tough choices...don't center on right versus wrong. They involve **right versus right.**

Rushworth Kidder

Founder, the Institute for Global Ethics

1944 - 2012

Example

**Artificial intelligence and
the Right to Explanation**

Kidder's four tests for ethical dilemmas



The Legal Test

Tests: Obedience to enforceable laws

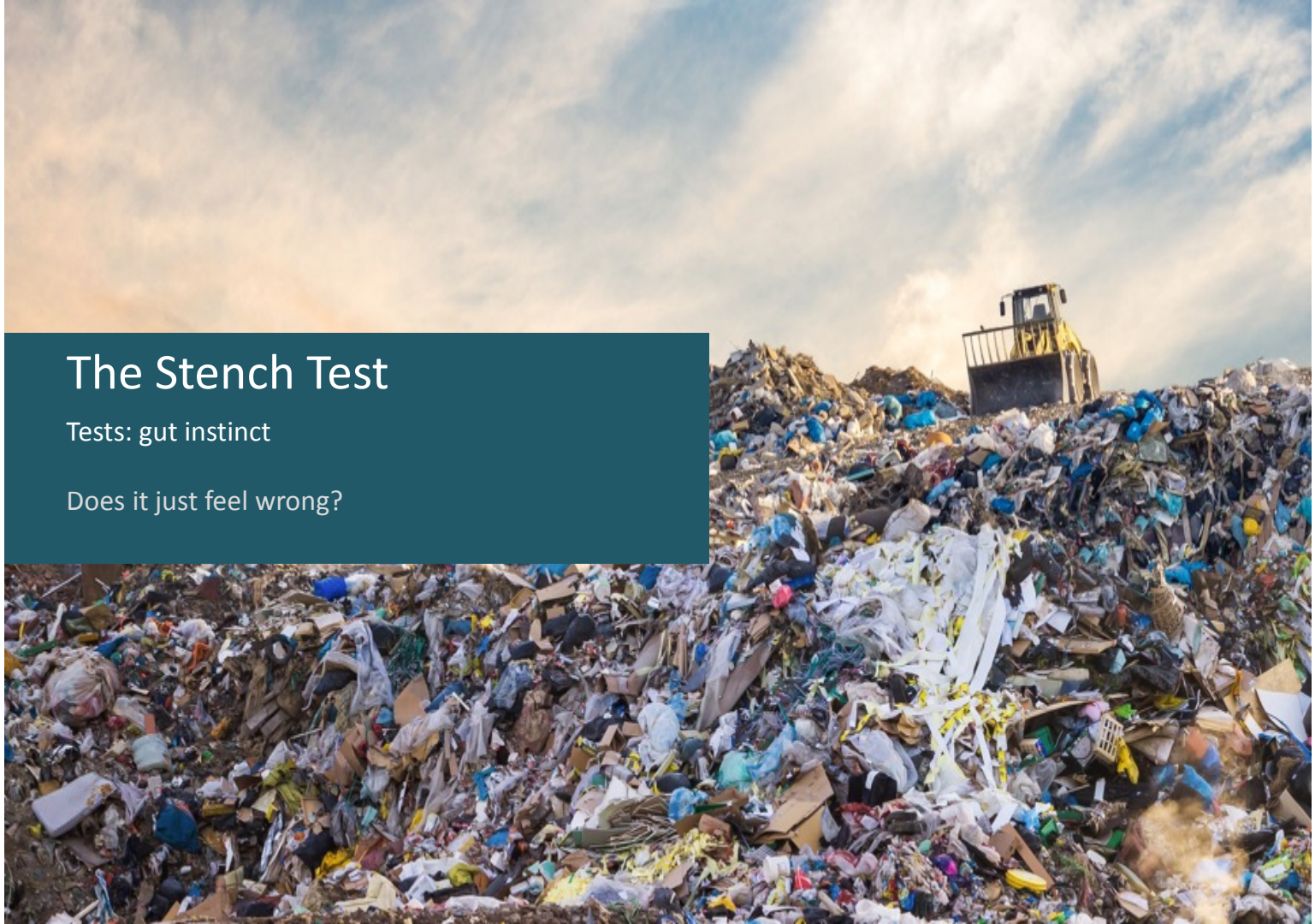
Would this break the law?

Note: this is not a true ethics test, as laws carry their own ethical implications.

The Stench Test

Tests: gut instinct

Does it just feel wrong?



The Front Page Test

Tests: alignment with community values

How would you feel if what you are about to do showed up tomorrow morning on the front pages of the nation's newspaper?





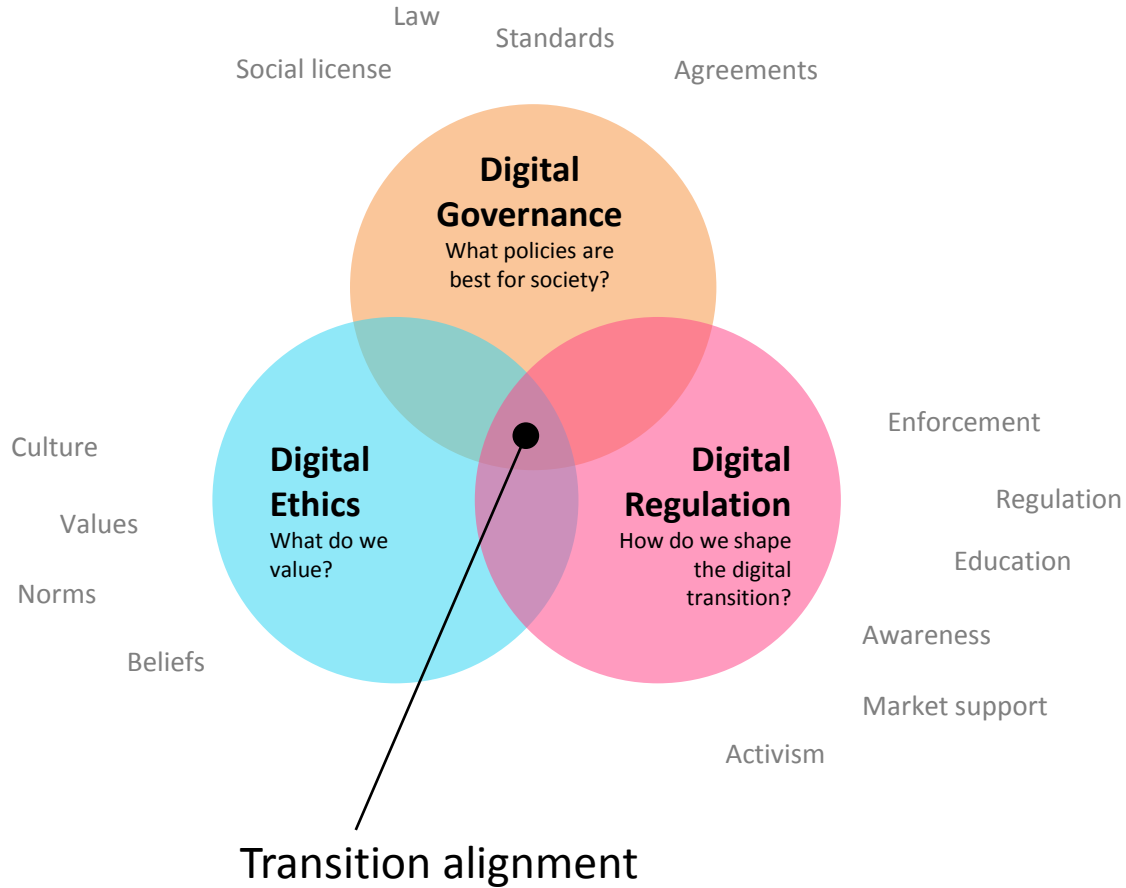
The Mother Test

Tests: clash with aspirational personal values as personified by a moral exemplar

“If Mom knew about this what would she think?”

An age of digital abrasion

The tension that emerges when what is *possible* with digital comes into conflict with what the community deems *acceptable*.





The transition from an entirely analogue and offline world to one that is increasingly also digital and online will never happen again in the history of humanity.

Luciano Floridi

Director, Digital Ethics Lab, Oxford

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Community for
Innovation and
Public Impact



ThinkPlace

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to join a community of
people who are working
to design, create and
scale public good.

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