

The novel should have been called 1998, instead of 1984. By turning the very devices that we use for communication between ourselves into tracking beacons advertising our location, we've managed to pervert them from useful tools to unfeeling quislings. Instead of people using tools we have tools informing upon people. Instead of the benefits of increased communication and utility, we see the further eroding of personal privacy.

We are proposing that Big Brother gain the airwave police. I'd have to assume the television police would be next. God forbid that he ever create the Thought Police, or the metaphor (and prophecy) would be complete.

We once fought for our own freedom of religion, freedom from taxation without representation, freedom to bear arms to defend ourselves. Must we have a Boston Cellular Phone Party before our government realizes that it should serve us, and not the reverse?

Right now, it's to our discretion to activate a cell phone, and (possibly) thereby recording our exact location. How far a stretch is it to just require people to have some small, innocuous, implanted beeper like those we use upon animals to track their breeding or migrating habits?

For surely, our breeding or migrating habits would interest someone, somewhere. And once the information is collected, it is sure to be used.

Against us. God Save the Queen.

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