THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS: THE HIDDEN IMPACTS OF DATA REGULATION

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Machine learning algorithms require access to masses of data. Coding algorithms to detect different types of cats need more than a million pictures of cats in different colours, sizes and postures. This notion is common knowledge for computer engineers and data analysts. Data regulation is essential to ensure our safety, privacy and ownership rights. Regulating the amount of data, the quality of the data, and the priority with which organizations can access data are paramount. However, as with other areas of law, regulation could result in unwarranted consequences. One impact of data regulation is incentivizing the usage of low-quality data that often demonstrates bias. Public domain data, like books or movies from the early 1930s, could reflect early western society's prejudice against blacks, women, and LGBTQ. A program using such works would lack a basic understanding of common modern phrases and would apply different meanings to day-to-day terms. A more excluded impact of data regulation might be associated with the GDPR “right to explanation” for machine-learning algorithms requirement, which is somewhat dubious in wording. Many programmers expressed concern about these obligations, claiming that machine-learning programs are intended to be sporadic and thus explaining that the process is considered a significant challenge. Finally, data regulation could also be employed as a political tool to pressure policy changes of rogue nations.