

Contact Tracing in the Circus of Robots

Vagueness is the cardinal feature of the contact tracing bill (H.R. 6666) and intentionally so. Words like “could” and “may” show up at key junctures. We could do this, we may do that. For example, when some pleasant android of the State shows up at your home and knocks on the door, because you shopped at a hole-in-the-wall hardware store where an employee was later found to be “positive for,” or “infected by,” or “sick from” (which one is it?) the virus, and this contact tracer asks you about your health, and asks you to get tested. What happens if you say NO?