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Houston adds jobs for seventh consecutive month



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Southern DAILY

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In a union of tradition and modernity, U.S actress Meghan marries Prince Harry

WINDSOR, England (Reuters) - Prince Harry and his actress bride Meghan Markle married on Saturday in a dazzling ceremony that blended ancient English ritual with African American culture, infusing the 1,000-year-old British monarchy with a blast of modernity. In a medieval chapel at Windsor Castle that 39 English kings and queens have called home since 1066, Harry and Meghan exchanged vows watched up close by royals and celebrities, and from afar by a global TV audience of many millions. Wearing a veil, diamond tiara and a sleek dress with a long train, the American actress was accompanied up the aisle of St George's Chapel by Harry's father, Prince Charles, before she and Harry exchanged vows and were proclaimed husband and wife. The couple kissed on the steps of the 15th Century chapel, before delighting the sea of well-wishers, some of whom had camped for days to witness the spectacular show of British pomp and pageantry, by touring Windsor in a horse-drawn carriage. The union of Harry, 33, a former royal wild child and sixth-in-line to the British throne, and 36-year-old Meghan, a divorcee whose mother is African-American and father is white, was like no other the royal family has seen before.

"We can break the barriers down, it can be done," said 40-year-old black Briton Yvonne Emanuel, one of the 100,000-strong crowd that thronged Windsor's streets. The ceremony was typical of royal weddings in many ways. The service was conducted by the Dean of Windsor while Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury, declared the couple man and wife, beneath the banners of the knights of the Order of the Garter, the world's oldest chivalric group dating back to 1348.

The newlyweds will also be officially known as the Duke and Duchess of Sussex after Queen Elizabeth bestowed those titles on them.

But throughout the wedding, there were significant breaks with tradition, in particular when U.S. Episcopalian bishop Michael Bruce Curry delivered a passionate sermon that was a far cry from the sober tones of the Church of England. "There's power in love," he boomed at a congregation that included Queen Elizabeth, senior royals and celebrities ranging from Oprah Winfrey to George Clooney and David Beckham. "Do not underestimate it. Anyone who has ever fallen in love knows what I mean," said Curry in an energetic address that quoted Martin Luther King.

African-American Karen Long, who was among the crowds in Windsor listening as the ceremony was relayed on loudspeakers, was one of those who appreciated the bishop's fiery address.

"It was a moment for African-Americans," said Long, who had come from Houston, Texas, with her sister and a group of friends, all dressed as bridesmaids. "The idea that Harry allowed that and acknowledged it, it was the perfect blend between her culture and the royal culture."

As well as traditional Church of England anthems and delicate English choral music, the ceremony also featured a gospel choir singing "Stand by Me", the 1960s hit by American soul singer Ben E. King.

Meghan's mother, Doria Ragland, 61, accompanied her daughter to the chapel in a vintage Rolls Royce and shed tears of emotion at several points during the ceremony.

Meghan entered the chapel unescorted, offering TV viewers and the congregation a first good look at her hotly anticipated wedding dress, which was created by British designer Clare



The newly married Duke and Duchess of Sussex, Meghan Markle and Prince Harry, leaving Windsor Castle after their wedding to attend an evening reception at Frogmore House, hosted by the Prince of Wales Windsor, Britain, May 19, 2018. Steve Parsons/Pool via REUTERS

Waight Keller of the French fashion house Givenchy. Harry, looking nervous, appeared to say: "Thanks Pa" to his father, and "You look amazing!" to his beaming bride. In further breaks with tradition, Markle, 36, did not vow to obey her husband; while Harry, who is three years her junior, wore a wedding ring - unlike other senior male royals such as his older brother Prince William. Before becoming engaged to Harry, Meghan, who starred in TV legal drama "Suits", had spoken out on a number of feminist causes.

The world's media have been gripped by the occasion, and television channels beamed the ceremony across the world. To some Britons, the marriage of a senior member of the royal family to the daughter of an African-American mother and white father embodied a modern Britain where race or background are no bar to even the most elite and traditional of institutions.

To others, it was an irrelevance or a mild distraction from the schism of Brexit, which has deeply divided the United Kingdom. Polls suggested that most Britons would not bother tuning in.

But in the narrow streets of Windsor, 30 miles (20 km) west of London, the enthusiasm from the vast crowds waving British flags and cheering was overwhelming, while thousands more celebrated at street parties held across the country.

Air traffic controllers for nearby Heathrow Airport, one of the world's busiest, even closed the airspace over the town for the 15 minutes before the ceremony to avoid marring proceedings with the roar of low-flying aircraft.

Among the raft of celebrity guests were James Corden, British host of the American TV chat show "The Late Late Show", tennis ace Serena Williams, British actor Idris Elba along with two of Harry's ex-girlfriends and the siblings of Harry's late mother Princess Diana.

Her sister, Lady Jane Fellowes, delivered the reading and the chapel itself was garlanded with white roses, the favorite flowers of Diana, who died in a car crash in Paris in 1997.

Elton John, who sang at Diana's funeral, performed at Harry and Meghan's wedding reception, held in the castle's St George's Hall.

The royal couple, who met on a blind date in 2016 and fell in

love in a tent under the stars in Botswana, later left in a silver blue Jaguar E-Type for nearby Frogmore House mansion. Prince Harry and Meghan Markle kiss on the steps of St George's Chapel in Windsor Castle after their wedding. Saturday May 19, 2018. Ben Birchall/Pool via REUTERS

Meghan, who was wearing a long white dress designed by Stella McCartney, was, in another break with tradition, to make a speech at the newly-weds' evening event, to which about 200 guests were invited.

Markle's own father Thomas Markle, 73, a former lighting director for TV soaps and sitcoms, pulled out of the ceremony this week, telling the U.S. celebrity website TMZ he had had heart surgery on Wednesday.

Confusion over his attendance marred the build-up to the wedding, which had been choreographed for months by royal aides, and his name was still present in the order of service. After watching the ceremony from California, he told TMZ it had been "emotional and joyful":

"My baby looks beautiful and she looks very happy. I wish I were there and I wish them all my love and all happiness."

Harry and Meghan will not immediately leave for a honeymoon and will carry out their first official engagement as husband and wife next week.

The British remain broadly supportive of the monarchy, albeit with a sense of mild irony about the pomp and pageantry that accompanies it, though most have deep respect for Queen Elizabeth after her 66 years of service as head of state.

Despite being unlikely to ever ascend to the throne as he is behind his father, brother, two nephews and niece in the line of succession, Harry has been at the forefront of efforts to modernize the monarchy in recent years, rejecting the uptight royal image to talk openly about his innermost feelings.

The Washington talks will start as the U.S. trade representative finishes up public hearings on the first batch of U.S. tariffs on \$50 billion worth of Chinese goods proposed as punishment for alleged violations of U.S. intellectual rights.

The tariffs, which target Chinese electrical and machinery parts, autos and flat-screen television sets, could take effect in early June, and may be followed by an additional round targeting \$100 billion worth of goods yet to be identified.

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Houston adds jobs for seventh consecutive month

The Houston metropolitan area added jobs for the seventh consecutive month in April, catching up to state's employment growth rate as higher oil prices provide a lift to the local economy. Houston added 12,000 jobs in April, after adding 11,700 in March and nearly 13,000 in February, the Texas Workforce Commission reported Friday. Over the past year, the region gained more than 80,000 jobs, matching the state's job growth of about 2.7 percent and easily exceeding the national employment growth rate of 1.6 percent. Houston lagged the state's economic and employment growth in recent years because of its greater exposure to the oil and gas industry, which suffered a two-year oil bust considered the worst in 30 years. As the industry and crude prices have recovered, so has the local economy. More than 1,000 rigs are operating in Texas and U.S. oil fields, the highest level since 2015, the Houston oilfield services company Baker Hughes reported Friday.

US President Donald Trump has arrived in Texas to survey the response to devastating Tropical Storm Harvey, the first major natural disaster of his White House tenure, as officials in Houston struggled to manage the record-breaking rains. You can watch his visit live, below. The slow-moving storm has brought catastrophic flooding to Texas, killed at least nine people, led to mass evacuations and paralyzed Houston, the fourth most-populous U.S. city. Some 30,000 people were expected to seek emergency shelter as the flooding entered its fourth day. Officials in Harris County, where Houston is located, said reservoirs built to handle drainage water were beginning



to overflow on Tuesday. They urged residents to evacuate as they released water to alleviate pressure on two dams, a move that would add to flooding along the Buffalo Bayou waterway that runs through the area. Officials in Brazoria County, south of Houston, also called for immediate evacuations around a levee Columbia Lakes that had been breached by Harvey's floodwaters. Some 3,500 people already have been rescued from high waters in the Houston area with police, firefighters and National Guard troops continuing to try to locate those marooned in high waters. "It does appear that job growth continues to strengthen right along with the price of oil and the rig count," said Parker A. Harvey, principal economist with Gulf Coast Workforce Solutions, a regional workforce development agency. Texas, meanwhile, added jobs for the 22nd con-

secutive month in April. The state's employers boosted payrolls by nearly 40,000 jobs last month, after adding more than 30,000 jobs in March, the Texas Workforce Commission reported. Over the past year, the state has gained more than 330,000 jobs. Unemployment in the state rose slightly, to 4.1 percent from 4 percent in March, as more people entered the job market. The national unemployment rate fell in April to 3.9 percent. In Houston, the April unemployment rate was 4.2 percent, down from 4.8 percent in April 2017. Energy services companies are again hiring in the Houston area, adding nearly 3,000 jobs over the past year, more than offsetting the 1,800 jobs lost over the past 12 months in oil and gas extraction sector, according to state statistics. Manufacturing, which is closely tied to oil and gas industry here, gained more than 10,000 jobs over the year.

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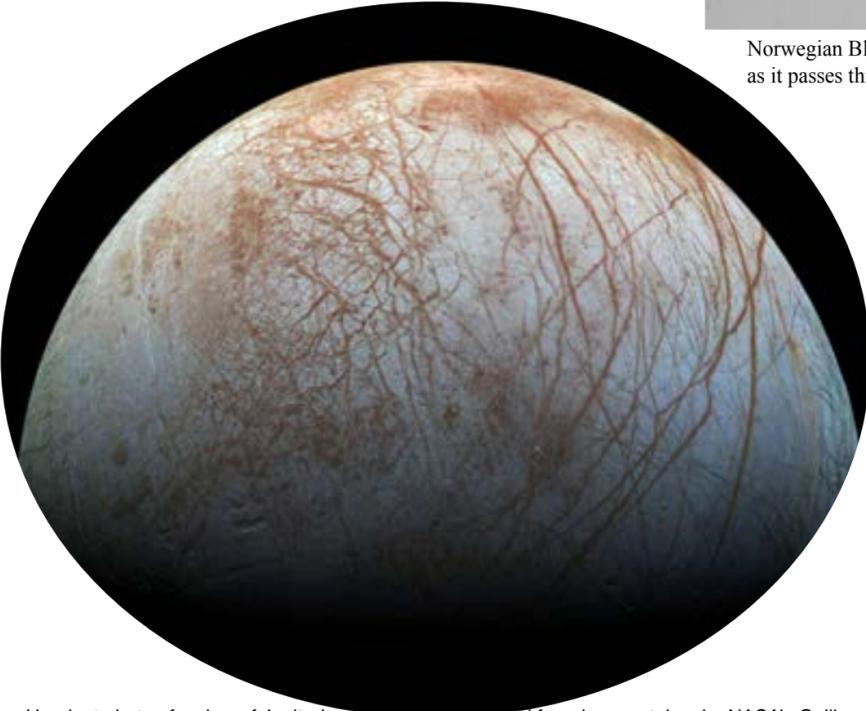
Editor's Choice



U.S. President Donald Trump flies in Marine One towards Walter Reed National Military Medical Center from the South Lawn of the White House



Norwegian Bliss, the largest cruise ship to transit the expanded Panama Canal through Cocoli locks, is seen as it passes through the Canal on the outskirts of Panama City



Handout photo of a view of Jupiter's moon Europa, created from images taken by NASA's Galileo spacecraft in the late 1990's



A model presents a creation by We Are Kindred during the Australian Fashion Week at Carriage-works in Sydney



Hannah Boroff takes part in a protest outside of Trump International Hotel against the new U.S. Embassy opening in Jerusalem in Washington



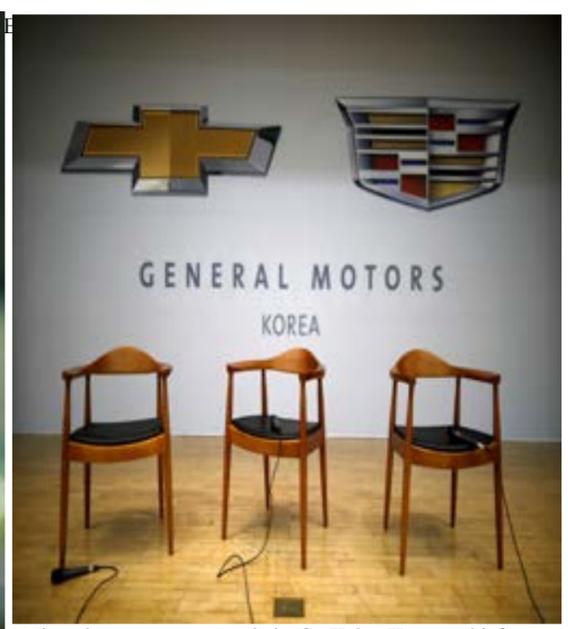
Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu claps his hands during the dedication ceremony of the new U.S. embassy in Jerusalem



Palestinian demonstrator with a slingshot looks on during a protest against U.S. embassy move to Jerusalem and ahead of the 70th anniversary of Nakba, at the Israel-Gaza border, east of Gaza City



A man shows his ink-stained finger as he poses after voting during elections for more than 42,000 village leaders nationwide in Pasig, Metro Manila



Microphones are seen on chairs for Kaheer Kazem, chief executive of GM Korea, and Barry Engle, head of GM's international operations, as a media briefing has been cancelled at a GM Korea's plant in Incheon

BETHESDA, Md., May 17, 2018/PRNews-wire/

Dear Parents – This is about your graduate:

--Graduation...

Graduation is a time to celebrate. But before your high school seniors begin their parties, take the time to talk with them about keeping events alcohol-free—it just may save a life. No amount of underage drinking is legal or safe. And we know that any underage drinking can lead to consuming too much alcohol, which may result in poor decisions, injuries, alcohol overdose, and possibly death.

It's About Your Teen...

A teenager's brain is still developing, and it is very sensitive to alcohol's effects on judgment and decision-making. Tragedies can—and do—happen, so underage drinking should not be a part of any end-of-year celebration.

The Effects of Alcohol Can Be Deceptive...

If you are asked to explain the reasons behind your rules, you can describe the effects of alcohol on the human body:

When people drink alcohol, they may temporarily feel elated and happy, but they should not be fooled. As blood alcohol level rises, the effects on the body—and the potential risks—multiply. Inhibitions and memory become affected, so people may say and do things that they will regret later and possibly not remember doing at all.



- Decision-making skills are affected, so people may be at greater risk for driving under the influence—and risking an alcohol-related traffic crash—or making unwise decisions about sex.
- Aggression can increase, potentially leading to everything from verbal abuse to physical fights.

Parents--Talk With Your High School Grads About Celebrating Safely

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



- Coordination and physical control are also impacted. When drinking leads to loss of balance, slurred speech, and blurred vision, even normal activities can become more dangerous.
- Consumption of a dangerously high amount of alcohol can also lead to alcohol overdose and death.
- Vulnerability to overdose increases if the teen is already on a sedative-hypnotic or pain medication. When people drink too much, they may eventually pass out (lose consciousness). Reflexes like gagging and breathing can be suppressed. That means people who have had too much alcohol could vomit and choke, or just stop breathing completely.

Think About It!

Drinking to celebrate graduation can result in vandalism, arrests, sexual assaults, injuries and trips to the emergency room, alcohol-related traffic crashes, and worse. Drinking by teens can put them—and their friends—in real danger. Ask them to consider this question: Is that any way to celebrate?

Talk With Your Graduate...

It is critical to talk with your graduate because research shows that parents do make a difference. By serving as a positive role model, talking with other parents and your teens, supervising parties to make sure no alcohol is served, and supporting alcohol-free school celebrations, you can help prevent a life-changing mistake.



A Word About Alcohol Overdose

Thousands of students are transported to the emergency room each year for alcohol overdose, which occurs when high levels of alcohol suppress the nervous and respiratory systems. Signs of this dangerous condition can include:

- Slow or irregular breathing;
- Vomiting;
- Mental confusion, stupor, loss of consciousness, or coma; and
- Hypothermia or low body temperature, bluish or pale skin.

An alcohol overdose can lead to permanent brain damage or death, so a person showing any of these signs requires immediate medical attention. If you or your graduate notices any of these signs, don't wait. Call 911 if you suspect an alcohol overdose.

Remember...

Tell your graduate to play it safe and party right—and alcohol-free—at graduation. Because a well-deserved celebration shouldn't end in tragedy. (Courtesy National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism) For more information, visit:

<https://www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov>

Related



College Drinking

Harmful and underage college drinking are significant public health problems, and they exact an enormous toll on the intellectual and social lives of students on campuses across the United States.

Drinking at college has become a ritual that students often see as an integral part of their higher education experience. Many students come to college with established drinking habits, and the college environment can exacerbate the problem. According to a national survey, almost 60 percent of college students ages 18-22 drank alcohol in the past month,¹ and almost 2 out of 3 of them engaged in binge drinking during that same timeframe.²

Consequences of Harmful and Underage College Drinking

Drinking affects college students, their families, and college communities at large. Researchers estimate that each year:

- Death**
About 1,825 college students between the ages of 18 and 24 die from alcohol-related unintentional injuries, including motor-vehicle crashes.³
- Assault**
About 696,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 are assaulted by another student who has been drinking.⁴
- Sexual Assault**
About 97,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 report experiencing alcohol-related sexual assault or date rape.⁴



What is "binge drinking"?

Many college alcohol problems are related to binge drinking. Binge drinking is a pattern of drinking that brings blood alcohol concentration (BAC) levels to 0.08 g/dl. This typically occurs after 4 drinks for women and 5 drinks for men—in about 2 hours. Drinking this way can pose serious health and safety risks, including car crashes, drunk-driving arrests, sexual assaults, and injuries. Over the long term, frequent binge drinking can damage the liver and other organs.

Statistics

§ **Prevalence of Drinking:** According to the 2015 NSDUH, 58.0 percent of full-time college students ages 18-22 drank alcohol in the past month compared with 48.2 percent of other persons of the same age.¹

§ **Prevalence of Binge Drinking:** According to the 2015 NSDUH, 37.9 percent of college students ages 18-22 reported binge drinking in the past month compared with 32.6 percent of other persons of the same age.¹

§ **Prevalence of Heavy Drinking:** According to the 2015 NSDUH, 12.5 percent of college students ages 18-22 reported heavy alcohol use in the past month compared with 8.5 percent of other persons of the same age.¹

1 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). 2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH). Table 6.84B—Tobacco Product and Alcohol Use in Past Month among Persons Aged 18 to 22, by College Enrollment Status: Percentages, 2014 and 2015. Available at: <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUH-DetTabs-2015/NSDUH-DetTabs-2015.htm#tab6-84b>. Accessed 1/18/17.

Consequences

Researchers estimate that each year: 1,825 college students between the ages of 18 and 24 die from alcohol-related unintentional injuries, including motor-vehicle crashes.¹ 696,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 are assaulted by another student who has been drinking.² 97,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 report experiencing alcohol-related sexual assault or date rape.³ Roughly 20 percent of college students meet the criteria for an AUD.⁴ About 1 in 4 college students report academic consequences from drinking, including missing class, falling behind in class, doing poorly on exams or papers, and receiving lower grades overall. (Courtesy National Institute On Alcohol Abuse And Alcoholism)

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Meet Dr. Amy En-Hui Chen

Amy En-Hui Chen, M.D.
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Dr. Chen is certified by the American Board of Family Medicine. She completed her internship and residency at Baylor College of Medicine. Her special clinical interests include women's health, preventive medicine, adolescent medicine, hypertension, and obesity management.

"The goal of my practice is to establish a nurturing, positive environment where my patients feel comfortable to discuss their health issues and situations. I enjoy getting to know my patients and developing lifelong relationships with them. I believe in educating patients to better understand their health conditions and disease processes, while making them an active partner in their ongoing care. I emphasize preventive care and lifestyle changes to help improve their overall health and quality of life."

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A leaked internal video from Google portrays the company's vision of "total data collection."

The 2016 video made by Google X's Head of Design Nick Foster was obtained by the Verge, and discusses how users could choose a "life goal," which Google then attempts to steer them towards through personalization.

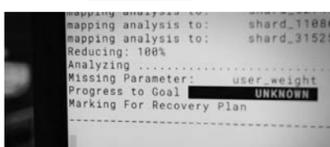
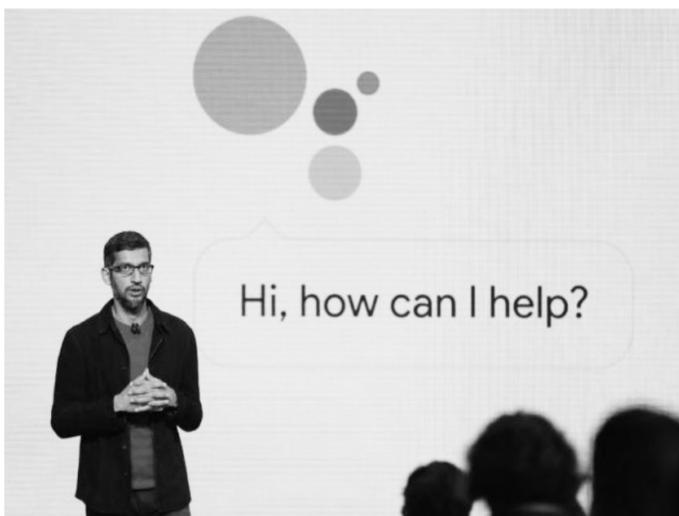
"It imagines a future of total data collection, where Google helps nudge users into alignment with their goals, custom-prints personalized devices to collect more data, and even guides the behavior of entire populations to solve global problems like poverty and disease," declared the Verge, who reported that "the middle section of the video presents a conceptual Resolutions by Google system, in which Google prompts users to select a life goal and then guides them toward it in every interaction they have with their phone."

"The examples, which would 'reflect Google's values as an organization,' include urging you to try a more environmentally friendly option when hailing an Uber or directing you to buy locally grown produce from Safeway," they explained, adding that, "The system would be able to 'plug gaps in its knowledge and refine its model of human behavior' — not just your particular behavior or mine, but that of the entire human species."



"Masters Of The Universe?" Leaked Video Shows Google's Vision Of 'Total Data Collection'

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



After the Verge reached out to Google's X team for comment, a spokesman responded, "We understand if this is disturbing — it is designed to be. This is a thought-experiment by the Design team from years ago that uses a technique known as 'speculative design' to explore uncomfortable ideas and concepts in order to provoke discussion and debate. It's not related to any current or future products."

Google has built a multibillion-dollar business out of knowing everything about its users. Now, a video produced within Google and obtained by The Verge offers a stunningly ambitious and unsettling look at how some at the com-

pany envision using that information in the future. The video was made in late 2016 by Nick Foster, the head of design at X (formerly Google X), and shared internally within Google. It imagines a future of total data collection, where Google helps nudge users into alignment with their goals, custom-prints personalized devices to collect more data, and even guides the behavior of entire populations to solve global problems like poverty and disease. (Courtesy <http://www.breitbart.com/tech/>)

Related

Google's Hypothetical 'Selfish Ledger' Imagines Collecting All Your Data to Push You to Change Society

A couple of years ago, Alphabet's X "moonshot factory" conjured up a concept that describes how total and absolute data collection could be used to

shape the decisions you make. And now a video about that concept has leaked online.

The video was obtained and published on Thursday by The Verge. It describes a so-called "Selfish Ledger" that would collect all of your data, including actions you make on your phone, preference settings, and decisions you make, and not just keep it there for future evaluation. Instead, the ledger, which would be designed and managed by Google, would interpret that information and guide you down a path towards reaching a goal, or on a broader scale, doing your part to help solve poverty or other societal problems.



In one example, the video describes how the ledger would ask you to create a life goal. It would then tell you what kind of activities to engage in to achieve that goal. So, for instance, if you want to lose weight, the ledger would see that you're shopping for food on your phone and direct you to buy a healthier option. The video even suggests that some of the recommendations would "reflect Google's values as an organization" to get you to reduce your carbon footprint. While it's unclear how Google would go about creating the technology, the implications could be major. The ledger would essentially collect everything

there is to know about you, your friends, your family, and everything else. It would then try to move you in one direction or another for your or society's apparent benefit. Privacy concerns and whether people would feel comfortable with a single company swaying public opinion would obviously come about if the ledger were ever pitched as an actual product. But let's not get too far ahead of ourselves.



In a statement to Fortune, an X spokesperson confirmed that the video is indeed real. However, the spokesperson said that it was developed under the concept of "speculative design," which aims at identifying alternative ways of doing things to spark debate and thoughts on ethics.

"We understand if this is disturbing — it is designed to be," the spokesperson said. "This is thought-experiment by the design team from years ago that uses a technique known as 'speculative design' to explore uncomfortable ideas and concepts in order to provoke discussion and debate. It's not related to any current or future products."

The video was produced by X's design chief Nick Foster, who is one of the foremost leaders in exploring speculative design. The video was intended for internal use only and wasn't meant to leak. And at least for now, Alphabet isn't intending to build the ledger.

Still, the concept sheds some light on data privacy, how we share information about us, and how easily it could be used in ways with which we might not feel comfortable. And yes, it's awfully scary. (Courtesy <http://fortune.com>)

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