

Will Law keep up with Robotics and Technology

A Legal Study

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## Abstract

Today we must look at the evolution of technology and not only accept and embrace it, but learn how to thrive in it before we as a people give up our rights of prosperity. I will be going through many studies, economically, socially, and psychologically to answer questions like; Will unemployment rates go up? Will robots fight our future wars? And, will the government interfere with Human-Robot interactions? Throughout I will look at different perspectives and conclude that No harm would come about as long as the law's start to grasp the nature of our current technology. Today we see Robotic technology like Automaton, mainly seen at a manufacturing plant or a self-checkout machine seen at a grocery store. Though not in the public eye, we also see interactive robots such as battle field robots and sex robots.

*Keywords:* Human-Robot interactions, Unemployment, Rights, Automaton, Battlefield Robots, Sex Robots.

First, I will state that I am Not Pro-Stifle innovation, but pro-common sense. I say this because we as a society must realize as we grow in technology we neglect the consequences we put ourselves in, asking the age-old question, just because we could, does it mean we should? Meanwhile, the law still hasn't adjusted to the social norms of what technology can do.

With a number of variables, we are facing problems that could hurt our wellbeing as a society if we do not begin to regulate how we proceed. Today is a crucial time in American history because again we are faced with decisions that affect our liberties and social structures.

When asked about the future, most people would have some sort of robotics as their top 10 in mind. Within robotics, if you are in the business of making things easier for the consumer than you might develop automatons, like self-checkout machines more efficient than a human being. Respectively that is your job, and a very necessary and important job. The push for this job was inevitably one created for not only efficiency in speed, and order placement, but cost for the companies purchasing them. A continual push was due to societies poverty rate and cost of living. As the cost of living rises, employment wages seem to sit idle. As demands for increase wages are pursued, so are the demands to level the cost, i.e. robotics. Why should I continuously pay for training, wages, healthcare, and off-time to several people when I can make a 1-time purchase of a robot and program that could do the same, if not better than any human? So, what would happen if companies no longer find the necessity to keep minimum wage workers? Would the government step in?

Speaking of efficiency, Robotic technology attempts to push the boundaries. As we slowly accept automatons without thinking of the law, is it smart to give these automatons the AI ability to think for itself? Would certain robots be acceptable and others won't? Would we draw the line on AI if it seems to thrive on self-preservation and human extinction?

### Automatons

Automaton's, or a machine that serves a specific function due to its program are seen everywhere from manufacturing to service counters. For the moment if you search for laws on owning an automaton you won't find much. The way they function might have laws within the

nature of the sale but outside of that, these machines benefit the corporate world. Self-checkout counters for example are a prime point of cost efficiency. They are a big topic when discussing employment loss but a topic that isn't discussed often. In 2016 minimum wage hike demands became a prime topic for the U.S. the argument was simple, cost of living was so high that people relying on minimum wage employment were suffering. Protest was heard from many avenues and Corporations began thinking of options that didn't involve loss of executive's income. When you are making between 9,000 to 14,000 dollars an hour, how could you afford to spread that poor excuse of a paycheck? The solution to some of these corporations is to purchase more self-checkouts machines. The projected future for these automatons is that they will be used to replace all blue-collar jobs such as cashiers. Big chain companies use these automatons with stride. Usually for 8 automatons there is 1 operator. That is 7 cashier jobs taken away. In the near future, every checkout counter will be an automaton. Corporations with about 24 counters in one of their stores will most likely only have 3 operators. This will definitely spike the unemployment rate in this sector, though it might open a few jobs in the robotics industry. The concern is still the people who rely on these low-wage jobs.

If this trend of replacing humans with robots continues and rises there will be a lot of social changes and problems. Without regulations, unemployment rates will sky-rocket but a possible employment shift would occur, pushing the masses to continue education for a better financial future. If the trend happens quicker than expected, it will be hard for low-income families to make those changes. If enough people make the switch to a better life the Middle class would grow from the low-income class, but if that doesn't happen, eventually the Middle will drop to the low as economy will decline due to costs of merchandise. The income wage war

had already begun without anyone implementing the high-rent cost that people face on an everyday, but our chances to sustain our economy will need to towards some sort of regulations.

I hate regulations as much as the next guy, but at some point, someone needs to say enough is enough when it comes to an automaton takeover of minimum wage jobs. Possible regulations could have a start as long as the kinks are worked out. One regulations would be an automaton tax. A tax that acts as a deterrent for corporations. Not necessarily driving them away, but allows them to exercise more conscientious decisions on hiring practices, taxes would serve to help unemployment and possibly low-income families to get educated. In essence going to scholarships and grants that would help people be trained in the robotics field. Another would be a Tax-Break, allowing companies and corporations to benefit when hiring on humans vs. purchasing automatons. Sure, this would keep the rich, rich, but it will also keep people employed. But at this point, we need to re-evaluate how apartment complexes abuse their rent hikes.

### Military Robots

When it comes to using the latest technology, you know that the government wants a piece of the action. For decades, the Military has experimented with robotics being used in the field. News of robotics flourished as soon as the Iron Man movies created buzz. People began to look into military bots more strongly. Sure we could go back to Nicola Tesla's radio-controlled boat back in 1898, or the teletanks in the 1930's. We can even give a nod to the Foster-Miller TALON used today, but the focus is a Sci-Fi looking military robot. A humanoid-robot that will replace the everyday soldier. Sure, there is skepticism, but about a year ago, Ivan the Terminator

made the papers as Russia's robot soldier. As a veteran, I am both thrilled and fearful of this robotic future. After all, there is no laws that help define a robotic military to protect the citizens of our great nation.

As the 2014 RoboCop has shown us, who is to blame when a robot doesn't have the proper AI when dealing with civilians vs. enemy combatants? AI has advanced in such a way that a military drone will see its targets run into a school and refute the command to fire missiles. In a way, it is guided by sense, and this very same AI will get better and into the futures Robotic Army. Again, this sounds like a dream, after all less casualties in the battlefield, less VA claims, and more technical Military Jobs. A possible neutral change would be less strategical battles, but overall the benefits of fighting a war on foreign soil will be great. The downside is the control over these military robots. How could flesh and blood compete against a robotic killing machine. Sure, there would be some moral dilemmas over human military personnel, questioning the fact that robots will need humans for repairs, but by this time I would assume that the Automaton robots would be in full swing when it comes to creating and repairing their military counterparts. Imagine a dictator controlling their people with the robots. Forcing them on a path of "security" over liberties. This might sound like a preposterous future, but if you don't think about it now how do we know that it won't come true. Again, who would have control? Would it be the president? The creator of the programs? The citizens of the nation?

If a future like this exist for us, I do not see any solution. We could pass laws that refrain the government from using these robots on domestic soil, but can we really trust the government to obey its own laws. Down the line there would be some sort of amendment allowing the government to use these military robots on its own citizens, instead of NDAA, let's pretend and

call it the MRNDAA, Military Robot National Defense Authorization Act, harmless, enough right? Right now, our only solution is to take a step back and analyze what we are getting ourselves into. Even if we make robots AI good enough to support morality, we have gone off the deep end. We might see RLM, Robot Lives Matter movements and a takeover of earth, i.e. Skynet.

### Sex Robots

Sex is a huge topic on its own without involving robots, but hey, the future is now and today I could make a ten-thousand to fifty-thousand-dollar purchase of a sex robot and enjoy its non-existent comforts. The sex robot's definition is exactly what you think. A robot that is used primarily for sex. There are so many cultural and ethical differences that this will be a subject that could be an everyday norm. There are no current laws on the books yet, but there are people who are already looking into what I like to call the RLM movement helping to promote roboticization consent.

There are a few benefits that come to mind when I strongly think about the Sex Robot movement that I'm sure we're about to face in the next 5 years. Liberation sex-slaves and lowering sex crimes. Just thinking about it the price is much lower than illegal prostitution and rape, the demand for sex with real people might be lowered. Overpopulation is a thing and this might be the ticket to handle it, and lastly, this might help an industry develop. People dress their dogs for some odd reason, why not dress that dummy into some sexy?

There could also be a few flaws that come out of this. Psychological issues can consume a population. Loving something that cannot love back is often a real problem anyways. Most of the time your buddy will shake you until you move on, other times this issue becomes more obsessive. People might find themselves in a position of going through disgusting habits, they will form some sort of addiction to the point where the fake thing isn't good enough and they take their perverted fantasies to a real person. Maybe the sex industry and illegal sex will rise after decades of using the fake thing. Other possibilities are enabling pedophiles to indulge in their unnatural behavior.

Regardless of the pros and cons I believe everyone can agree that there must be some sort of law that regulates what could be produced and what can't, but even that would be defied somehow. Bestiality is illegal, but we still have Furrries, though I believe the animal has to have some sort of human trait in this cultural norm. When it comes to sex-dolls that resemble underage humans I believe we should take a stand.

Let us not forget the route of technology though. We are getting to a period of AI where we want more. At this we could ask, what happens when a Sex Robot want her or his rights? At that point do we change the law or ensure that there is a reset button on the future Roxxy?

### Conclusion

Outside of theoretical questions and answers we must validly think that this might not be an if, but a when. Our future is drastically changing due to technology and robots are a big part of this. No longer will we be seeing Redbox taking over the video rental Bizz from Blockbuster, Though Netflix had a place in that destruction, but we will be seeing robots walking amongst us.

Will there be Robot rights? Will Robot lives really matter? Will Automaton's take our livelihood and liberties? These are questions that our politicians must consider, and if they don't we must find more technological conscientious politicians. In fact, some of the smartest people of our time have questioned Robotics and its advancements with AI, people like Stephen Hawking, Bill Gates, and Elon Musk.

For the moment, we are in a safe place, maybe less safe than yesterday, but definitely safer than tomorrow. What we might think will be a Utopian will probably a Dystopian if we don't regulate our advancements with practical Law.

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