

1984...



Issues and Themes...

## Today's Seminar

- What were the technologies that supported 'Big Brother'.
- What do you consider (current and imminent) technologies that might widely be perceived as posing 'Big Brother' Issues?
- In Groups – as a designer/implementor of technology – do you see yourselves as having a (Moral? Ethical?) responsibility with regard to 'Big Brother' issues?

## Technologies in Big Brother...

- Telescreen...
  - Surveillance
    - What were some of the issues surrounding the technology?
    - "For some reason the telescreen in the living-room was in an unusual position. Instead of being placed, as was normal, in the end wall, where it could command the whole room, it was in the longer wall, opposite the window"
    - But is this what gets our heroes in the end?
  - (mis)Information dissemination
- Id Badges



## Technologies...

- Current
  - CCTV
    - <http://www.crimereduction.gov.uk/cctv/cctv4.htm>
    - Others??
  - Assitive technologies
    - Sensors in rooms belonging to elderly suffering Alzheimer's...
- Imminent
  - GPS technologies in Road Charging
- Should we be concerned??

## Group Discussion...

- Moral
  - Of or concerned with the judgment of the goodness or badness of human action and character: *moral scrutiny*; *a moral quandary*.
  - Teaching or exhibiting goodness or correctness of character and behavior: *a moral lesson*.
  - Conforming to standards of what is right or just in behavior; virtuous: *a moral life*.
  - Arising from conscience or the sense of right and wrong: *a moral obligation*.
- Ethical
  - A set of principles of right conduct.
  - A theory or a system of moral values: "*An ethic of service is at war with a craving for gain*" (Gregg Easterbrook).
  - ethics (*used with a sing. verb*) The study of the general nature of morals and of the specific moral choices to be made by a person; moral philosophy.
  - ethics (*used with a sing. or pl. verb*) The rules or standards governing the conduct of a person or the members of a profession: *medical ethics*.