State, Digital Surveillance, and Society – A Scoping Review

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Abstract: The concept of state digital-surveillance has been recognized as a significant factor impacting individual privacy and social dynamics, drawing greater attention in sociological literature. However, existing studies often examine digital surveillance, social control, and privacy in isolation, and there is limited empirical research establishing clear causal links between state digital-surveillance and its broader societal impacts. As a result, there is a need for a confirmatory study that addresses this gap. The literature on the relationship between state digital-surveillance and its effects on privacy and autonomy remains fragmented, with few comprehensive studies exploring how surveillance practices shape societal structures. This scoping review utilizes the PCC model of PRISMA guidelines to investigate these connections. It focuses on the causal relationship between state digital-surveillance, individual freedoms, and societal control, providing an overview of existing literature and identifying areas for further research. Specifically, this review highlights the intersection of digital surveillance and social behavior, offering insights that map the complex linkages between state digital-surveillance and its effects on modern society.

Keyword: State-Digital Surveillance, Social Control, Society

INTRODUCTION

Existing studies have demonstrated a concerning trend where state surveillance, particularly digital surveillance, has profound implications for individuals and societal structures. Zuboff (2019) has extensively analyzed how surveillance capitalism turns personal data into a commodity for control and profit, significantly impacting privacy and autonomy. This observation has spurred interest in examining the broader effects of surveillance on social and individual levels (Garrett, 2022; Tortajada, 2020; Zuboff, 2020).

In relevant framework, Lyon (2018) explores the pervasive nature of modern surveillance and its influence on cultural norms and behaviors (Benjamin J. Goold, 2019; Bryan, 2018; Garrett, 2022). Additionally, Ball, Haggerty, and Lyon (2012) provide a detailed examination of surveillance practices and their societal implications, noting that state surveillance often intersects with various forms of social control (Ball eit al., 2014; Eileiy & Rampton, 2020). Despite these contributions, there remains a gap in understanding how state digital-surveillance directly affects societal structures and individual freedoms.

Further research by Koskeila (2004) highlights the impact of media technologies, including surveillance tools, on personal privacy and social dynamics. However, the causal relations between state digital-surveillance and its broader societal effects have not been fully explored. Andreijeivic & Burdon (2015) calls for a more thorough investigation into these intersections, emphasizing the need to understand how surveillance contributes to both public and private control mechanisms. Mölleir & Nowak (2019) also address the global implications of identity management and security practices facilitated by surveillance, yet a detailed causal analysis is still inadequate.

This scoping review endeavors to fill these gaps by examining the relations between state surveillance and its societal impacts using the Population, Concept, and Context (PCC) model of the PRISMA-ScR guidelines. Unlike the PICO model, which has been less effective in capturing the intricate relationships between surveillance and societal effects, the PCC model provides a more comprehensive framework for understanding these dynamics. This review will focus on the implications of state digital-surveillance across different contexts, including urban and rural settings, to offer a clearer view of its effects on privacy, autonomy, and social control.

By analyzing existing literature and integrating new insights, this study aims to provide a thorough understanding of the nexus between state digital-surveillance and societal impacts. The review will identify key findings and highlight areas for future research, contributing to the ongoing discourse on surveillance and its effects on contemporary society.

METHOD

This study utilized the scoping review method, which is a systematic strategy for examining and mapping research information. We follow the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses extension for Scoping Reviews PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) 2020 guidelines and adopt the search stages of the PRISMA flowchart (Pagei eit al., 2021). The review aimed to explore the role of digital surveillance in controlling or monitoring social behavior in society. Therefore, the research question was, "How is digital surveillance used as a tool for controlling or monitoring social behavior in society?" The inquiry focused on the use of digital surveillance as a tool to monitor and control social behavior in society. The exposure included various digital technologies designed to track the activities of individuals and groups. The outcome of the investigation was the impact of surveillance on personal freedom, privacy, and social dynamics. This study was not limited to specific regional boundaries. The article's publication timeframe was restricted to 2010 and 2024. The authors selected this period to capture the rapid expansion of digital surveillance technologies during these years.

To be considered for inclusion, articles were required to meet the following criteria: (1) original articles written in English, (2) indexed journals, (3) peer-reviewed journals, and (4) full-text articles. Furthermore, the author excluded duplicate articles, theses/dissertations, articles focused on other forms of surveillance unrelated to digital monitoring, and articles that did not specifically address the relationship between digital surveillance and social behavior. Articles with insignificant outcomes, unrelated statistical analyses, or qualitative findings that did not support the research objectives were also excluded from the review.
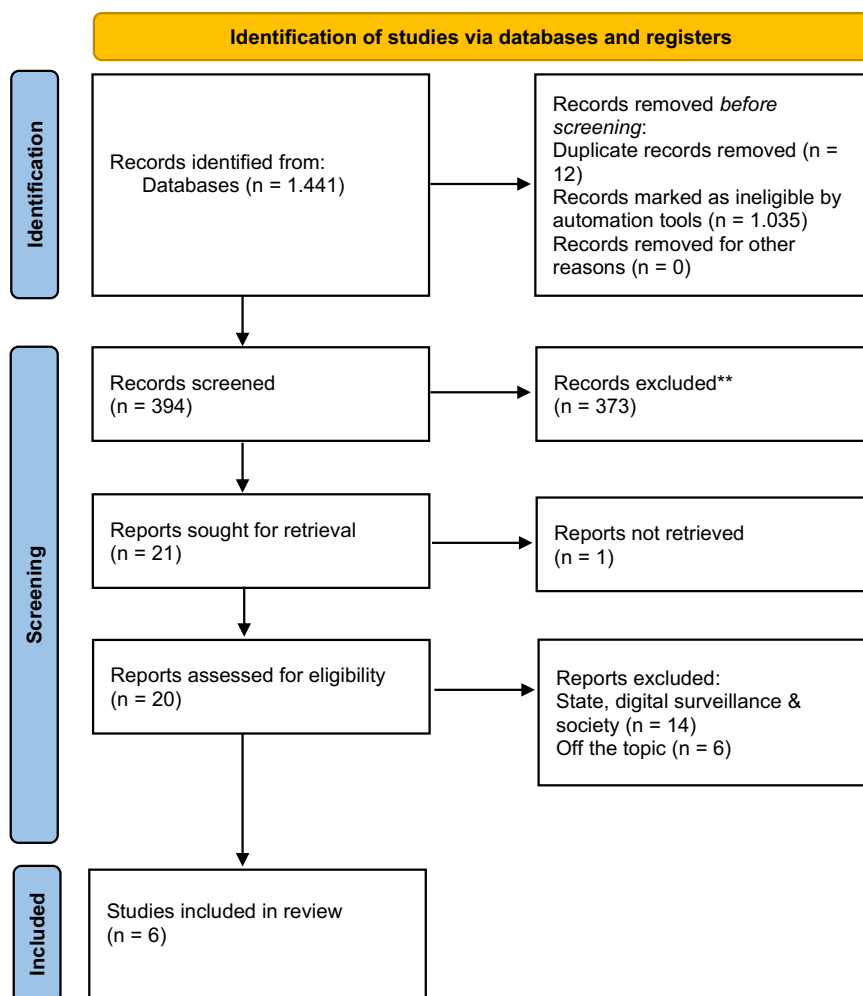
Figure 1: PRISMA 2020 flow diagram.

Note: Page MJ, McKenzie JE, Bossuyt PM, Boutron I, Hoffmann TC, Mulrow CD, et al. The PRISMA 2020 statement: an updated guideline for reporting systematic reviews. BMJ 2021;372:n71. doi: 10.1136/bmj.n71

Table 1. Search on keywords in Scopus, ScienceDirect, Sage Journal, Taylor & Francis, Cambridge Core			
Database	**Keywords**	**Further Limitations**	**Results**
Scopus	TITLE-ABS-KEY (state AND "digital surveillance" AND society) AND PUBYEAR > 2009 AND PUBYEAR < 2025 AND (LIMIT-TO (SUBJAREA , "SOCI")) AND (LIMIT-TO (DOCTYPE , "ar")) AND (LIMIT-TO (LANGUAGE , "English")) AND (LIMIT-TO (SRCTYPE , "j"))	2010-forward, Subject areas: Social Sciences, Language: English, Document type: Article.	31
ScienceDirect [in title, abstract, keywords]	state AND "digital surveillance" AND society	2010-forward, Subject areas: Social Sciences, Document	263

		type: Research articles.	
Sage Journal	state AND "digital surveillance" AND society	2010-forward, Subject areas: Social Sciences & Humanities, Sociology, Document type: Research articles.	470
Taylor & Francis	[All: state] AND [All: "digital surveillance"] AND [All: society] AND [All Subjects: Social Sciences] AND [All Subjects: Sociology & Social Policy] AND [Article Type: Article] AND [Publication Date: (01/01/2010 TO 12/31/2024)]	2010-forward, Subject areas: Social Sciences, Sociology & Social Policy, Document type: Articles.	670
Cambridge Core	state AND "digital surveillance" AND society	2010-2024 Document type: Articles	7
Total			1.441

Search Strategy

After developing the research question, relevant search terms were adapted to align with the study objectives. Using Boolean format, keywords were generated as follows: "state" AND "digital surveillance" AND "society". Articles were searched between February and March 2024.

Selection Process

Data source employed in this research are ScienceDirect, Scopus, Taylor and Francis Journals, Cambridge Core, and Sage Journals. A PRISMA flow diagram (Figure 1) was adapted to identify the articles. This flowchart consists of three stages: identification, screening, and inclusion. During the identification phase (Stage I), the quantity of articles retrieved from a database search and the amount that remains after eliminating duplicates are determined. Automation tools were employed at this stage to filter articles based on criteria such as language (English), full-text availability, research article classification, and open access status. The screening phase (Stage II) involved sorting articles according to research questions and eligibility criteria, specifically using keywords, titles, and abstracts. In the inclusion phase (Stage III), articles were evaluated by examining the full text of the articles that were successfully retrieved. During this stage, the authors screened the eligible articles for review. The reviewed literature sources must fulfill certain criteria, including being sourced from indexed journals, being peer- reviewed, having an ISSN number, and having a clearly identified journal number and volume. Only papers that fulfilled these criteria were considered in the final step of the review process.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Researchers have conducted a scoping review (Adjorlolo & Seitordzi, 2021) to analyze the state, digital surveillance, and societal impacts, as evidenced by the literature reviewed. In the following sections, a detailed discussion of the in-depth inquiries and conceptual discussions of the selected literature is provided. First, the researchers examined the quartile rankings of the journals in which the articles were published and the methodologies

adopted. This examination helps to identify the credibility and quality of the research related to digital surveillance and its effects on society. Second, the researchers reviewed the concepts discussed in the articles, focusing on how state surveillance intersects with various societal contexts, including rural and urban settings. This review highlights how different contexts influence the implementation and perception of surveillance practices. Finally, the researchers explored the broader effects of state digital-surveillance, emphasizing its impact on social behavior, privacy, and institutional trust. This exploration aims to understand how surveillance practices influence societal norms and individual freedoms, providing insights into the broader implications of state surveillance on society.

Analysis

Table 1 presents an overview of the data analysis process for the articles cited in this study. The analysis began with the categorization and classification of the relevant literature based on the quartile rankings of journals in which the articles were published, the methodologies adopted, and the contexts of discussion. The articles span various contexts, including surveillance and digital topics, published over recent years.

Initially, we categorized the articles based on their journal quartile rankings: Q1 = 5, Q3 = 1, and no quartile ranking = 1. We then analyzed the methods used in the studies: four articles employed quantitative methods, one used qualitative methods, and one was a literature review. his classification provided a framework for understanding the research landscape.

Our first-level reading articles focused on identifying the context of discussions, whether related to surveillance or digital transformations. We extracted key themes and concepts discussed in each article to understand the broader academic discourse.

A detailed examination of the titles, abstracts, and main content of each article enable us to delineate the specific focus of each study. For instance, Rothschild (2024), Bakir (2015), Adeiyeiyei (2024), and Kao & Sapp (2022) all contributed to the surveillance context, while Saura eit al., (2022) and Zintl & Houdreit (2024) provided insights into AI and digital transformations, respectively.

The subsequent step entailed categorizing the studies that specifically addressed the nexus of surveillance and its impacts, leading to a refined selection of articles that more closely aligned with our study's focus. This process resulted in a comprehensive understanding of the current literature, highlighting key discussions in high-impact journals and various methodological approaches.

Overall, Table 1 effectively maps the distribution and focus of research articles, enabling a clearer analysis of trends and gaps in the study of surveillance, AI, and digital contexts.

Theoretical discussion

In this discussion section, the researchers consolidated the theoretical understanding concept of the panopticon introduced by Foucault, which was explored in this study, thereby providing information on the contextual relationship between the concepts of surveillance, power, and social control within existing theories, and thus opening new approaches for the development of advanced theories on modern social control and surveillance.

The concept of the panopticon, initially proposed by Jeremy Bentham and later developed extensively by Michel Foucault, forms the foundation for analyzing power in modern society. Foucault (1977) introduced the panopticon as a metaphor for understanding how power is exercised through continuous but invisible surveillance. In the panopticon model, individuals feel constantly watched, even though there is no concrete evidence of the presence of an observer, creating a profound disciplinary effect on their behavior.

According to Foucault, the panopticon is not only about physical surveillance but also

functions as a tool to discipline minds and bodies through mechanisms of control dispersed across various institutions such as prisons, schools, hospitals, and factories. This surveillance generates fear and self-regulation, ultimately facilitating the creation of a compliant society without always relying on coercive force (Foucault, 1977).

Contemporary scholars like Lyon (1995) and Haggeirty (2006) have expanded this concept by linking it to the phenomenon of digital surveillance in the information technology era. Surveillance is no longer confined to physical spaces as in the classic panopticon model but has evolved into "networked surveillance," encompassing online activities, personal data, and everyday digital interactions (Lyon, 1995). This concept is increasingly relevant in the modern digital world where individuals are constantly monitored through technologies such as CCTV, the internet, and social media, even though they are not always aware of it.

Table 2. Indicates the quartile of the journals in which the articles are published, methodsadopted and the context of discussions			
Citation	Journal Quartile	Method	Context ofdiscussions
1. Rothschild (2024)	Q3	Qualitative	Surveillance context
2. Adeiyeiyei (2024)	Q1	Quantitative	Surveillance context
3. Kao & Sapp (2022)	Q1	Quantitative	Surveillance context
4. Saura eit al., (2022)	Q1	Mixed-methods approach	AI context
5. Bakir (2015)	Q1	Qualitative	Surveillance context
6. Zintl & Houdreit (2024)	—	Literature review	Digital context

Digital surveillance and political control emerge as central themes in several studies. Rothschild (2024) illustrates how surveillance in China is used to control protests and reinforce political control. Bakir (2015) critiques surveillance practices in the US and UK, explores cyber security manipulations in Egypt, and examines their impacts on privacy. Adeyeye (2024) highlights differing attitudes towards surveillance and privacy across 34 African countries, influenced by cultural, political, and social factors. Kao & Sapp (2022) complement this discussion by showing how cultural values and trust in institutions shape public perceptions of surveillance policies. Meanwhile, Saura et al. (2022) emphasize the complex balance between trust and privacy in the acceptance of AI technologies. Finally, Zintl & Houdret (2024) find that digital transformation in the MENA region has a U-shaped effect on the social contract, indicating the need for institutional reforms and a comprehensive approach to digitalization and governance.

Discussion

Digital surveillance impacts societies in varied ways, reflecting a complex interplay of political, cultural, and economic factors. In authoritarian regimes, such as China, surveillance technologies are often employed to enhance political control and manage dissent, as highlighted by Akın Ünveir, (2018). This use of surveillance underscores a broader trend where such technologies are leveraged not just for security, but to reinforce governmental authority and suppress opposition. Conversely, in democratic societies, privacy concerns take center stage. Sætra (2022) points out that while surveillance is often justified as a security measure, it frequently leads to significant privacy infringements, raising ethical questions about the balance between security and individual freedoms. Cultural attitudes also shape the perception of surveillance; Yang & Tsai (2020) notes that in societies with high levels of trust in government or communal values, surveillance may be more accepted, whereas in cultures that prioritize individual rights, resistance to surveillance is stronger. Economic disparities further

complicate this issue, as Heieiks (2022) discusses how surveillance can exacerbate existing inequalities by creating a digital divide, where wealthier individuals have better access to privacy protections compared to less affluent populations. Marginalized communities are particularly vulnerable, with Ragneidda eit al., (2022) noting that surveillance practices can reinforce social inequalities, increasing the risk of exclusion and further marginalization. Addressing these challenges requires comprehensive reforms, as Zuboff (2020) advocates for stronger privacy protections and transparent regulatory frameworks. Balancing security with privacy, while ensuring that technological advancements do not infringe on individual freedoms, is crucial for fostering an equitable and just digital society. Digital surveillance has become a pervasive tool with varying impacts across different societal contexts. Studies reveal a multifaceted picture of how surveillance is employed and perceived globally, influenced by political, cultural, and economic factors.

In China, digital surveillance is notably used to control political dissent and reinforce governmental authority, as discussed by Rothschild (2024). This reflects a broader trend where surveillance technologies are leveraged not merely for security but as instruments of political control. Conversely, Bakir (2015) critiques similar practices in the US and UK, highlighting issues of cyber security manipulation in Egypt and the ensuing privacy concerns. This critique underscores the tension between security measures and individual privacy rights, showing how surveillance can be manipulated for various ends.

Josh Chin and Liza Lin, two veteran Wall Street Journal reporters, explore this question in their new book **Surveillance State: Inside China's Quest to Launch a New Era of Social Control** (Beirnot, 2023). Over years of covering China's political and technological rise, they draw on their experience to unpack how the country built its sophisticated digital surveillance system (spoiler: with the help of American companies) and the often flawed assumptions behind its implementation, which have led to disastrous consequences.

Chin and Lin detail how authorities use an advanced national database that links identification documents, facial recognition data, fingerprints, and travel histories (Steiphein Chein, 2017). A more powerful layer of surveillance comes from China's vast network of CCTV cameras, whose footage is analyzed in real time by AI software sold by Chinese companies like Huawei, Sensetime, Megvii, and China Electronics Technology Group Corporation (CETC) (Beiraja eit al., 2023). Unconstrained by China's weak legal system and its nascent digital privacy laws, these tech giants and the country's security apparatus can track phones, monitor online purchases, and decrypt messages. (Sacks, 2022)

The idea—pioneered by early Chinese scientific thinkers like Qian Xuesen—is that harnessing vast amounts of behavioral data can enable predictive policing and create stable, secure societies. With the immense data generated by over a billion mobile internet users, this vision has become a reality. In the book, Jack Ma, founder of e-commerce giant Alibaba, is quoted from a 2015 talk attended by high-level security officials: "Whoever owns enough data and computing power can predict problems, predict the future, and judge the future."

Government surveillance is inherently secretive, making it difficult to uncover and understand (Hoffman, 2017). In the absence of hard facts, especially amid tense U.S.-China geopolitical relations, less informed reporters might resort to speculation or exaggeration (Lawreincei eit al., 2021; Pagano, 2023; Sheiikh MPhil Scholar & Usman Askari Assistant Profeissor, 2021). Chin and Lin avoid this, instead illustrating China's surveillance reach through real-world examples that show both its mundane and dystopian applications (Mozur, 2018; Paul Mozur, 2018).

One of the book's strengths is its unflinching analysis of how such big data techniques are not unique to China but are also employed by governments worldwide, including in the U.S. The authors make it clear that China is not alone in using a surveillance system powered by video monitoring and artificial intelligence (Meilissein, 2006). Western companies such as Intel, IBM, Seagate, Cisco, and Sun Technologies are among those Chin and Lin examine,

exploring the commercial ties that made China's surveillance state technologically and financially viable (Gallagheir, 2019).

China has achieved something chilling yet impressive: near-total social control with minimal overt physical oppression, unlike in more visibly authoritarian countries like Iran or Russia. However, this control obscures a disturbing level of systemic bias and inaccuracies built into the digital surveillance system (Paddein, 2023). Some anecdotes are almost laughable—one political dissident was visited by police after buying a slingshot online, presumably to take down the CCTV cameras monitoring his home.

Surveillance State was largely reported before the COVID-19 pandemic, and neither reporter was based in China when it locked down its borders and introduced digital COVID-tracking tools (Geirmanò eit al., 2023; Liu & Zhao, 2021). Conveniently, these COVID-tracking tools are also ideal for tracking people's movements (Zeing eit al., 2020). In China today, everyone must submit location and travel data to maintain green QR codes on their phones; a red code mandates immediate quarantine if the person is infected or a close contact.

The power to control people's daily movements is easily abused. Shortly before the book's release, local authorities in Zhengzhou were reprimanded for deliberately turning the health codes of hundreds of protesters red after they were defrauded by a local bank (Leiei, 1997). Should Chin and Lin write a follow-up, they would likely find even more material exploring the dual-use nature of China's digital health tools (Bateiman, 2022).

Surveillance State is a cautionary tale. It fairly details China's rapid construction of a model of digital authoritarianism, one other countries may seek to emulate (Beirnot, 2023). Its value lies in showing that surveillance systems are only as good—or as dangerous—as the people who create them (Moran, 2015).

Cultural and societal influences further shape the impact of surveillance. According to Adeyeye (2024), attitudes towards surveillance and privacy vary significantly across African countries, influenced by local cultural, political, and social contexts. This variation is supported by Kao & Sapp (2022), who emphasize how cultural values and institutional trust affect public perceptions of government surveillance. These studies collectively highlight that the acceptance and resistance to surveillance practices are deeply embedded in cultural contexts. Economic factors also play a critical role. Andreiw eit al., (2023) explores how surveillance can exacerbate economic inequalities, with wealthier individuals and nations having better access to privacy protections. This economic disparity complicates the implementation and impact of surveillance technologies, particularly in less affluent regions.

The impact on marginalized communities is another significant concern. Couldry & Meijias (2020) discuss how surveillance practices disproportionately affect marginalized groups, reinforcing existing social inequalities and increasing their vulnerability. This is further supported by the findings of Saura et al. (2022), who highlight the complex balance between trust and privacy in the context of AI technologies, reflecting how technological advancements can both enhance and undermine privacy.

Finally, the need for comprehensive reforms is evident. Zintl & Houdret (2024) demonstrate that digital transformation in the MENA region has a U-shaped effect on the social contract, emphasizing the necessity for institutional reforms and a holistic approach to digital governance. Similarly, Zuboff (2019) calls for stronger privacy protections and transparent regulatory frameworks to address the challenges posed by surveillance capitalism.

In summary, the discourse on digital surveillance reveals a complex interplay of political, cultural, and economic factors. The diverse impacts across different contexts highlight the need for balanced policies that safeguard individual freedoms while addressing the multifaceted challenges of surveillance. Comprehensive reforms and a nuanced understanding of these dynamics are essential for developing an equitable digital society.

Research gaps identified for future research avenues

Existing literature on state surveillance and its societal implications often focuses on technological and policy-driven perspectives, such as the efficacy and ethics of surveillance systems (Keilly, 2008; Klauseir, 2008; Lippeirt, 2008; Orrú, 2017). However, there is a notable theoretical gap in integrating socio-cultural and psychological frameworks to comprehensively understand the impact of state surveillance on social behavior and individual privacy. Current discussions frequently overlook how surveillance intersects with broader social theories, such as power dynamics and cultural norms, which shape individuals' experiences and societal structures (Andreijeivic, 2013).

Specifically, there is a lack of exploration into how surveillance practices are interpreted differently across diverse socio-political contexts and how these interpretations affect public trust and social norms (Haggeirty & Eiricson, 2000). Theoretical frameworks that incorporate elements of power theory, cultural studies, and psychological impact assessments are needed to offer a more nuanced understanding of the implications of state digital-surveillance. Such frameworks could provide deeper insights into how surveillance influences not only policy and technology but also individual and collective behaviors and attitudes within various cultural contexts (Lippeirt, 2008).

Addressing these gaps requires developing theoretical platforms that integrate power dynamics, cultural influences, and psychological effects to fully grasp the complex relationship between state digital-surveillance and societal impact. This approach would enhance the analysis of how surveillance practices contribute to shaping social behavior, privacy concerns, and the overall fabric of society (Andreijeivic, 2013).

Particular emphasis has been placed on the socio-cultural implications of state digital-surveillance, as well as the perceived erosion of individual autonomy caused by pervasive monitoring, which has left citizens vulnerable to control and exploitation. The direct impact of surveillance on social structures and individual freedoms has not been extensively explored (Andreijeivic, 2013). One study reported that while digital surveillance has been analyzed from technological and policy perspectives, its intersection with social behavior remains under-researched. For many, this manifests through altered behavior, diminished trust in institutions, and the reinforcement of existing power dynamics. The psychological complexities of surveillance leading to changes in public trust and social behavior are areas that require further investigation (Glasbeieik, 2020). Thus, researchers focused on surveillance and social control have an obligation to assume responsibility for conducting studies that explore the nexus between state digital-surveillance and societal impacts, particularly in the context of diverse cultural settings and their influence on privacy and social norms.

Policy implications of state surveillance must be considered, particularly regarding its influence on individual privacy, autonomy, and societal trust. While digital surveillance has been justified as a means of ensuring security and public safety, it often leads to significant infringements on personal freedoms (Topak, 2019). Policies that regulate surveillance technologies should aim to balance the need for security with the protection of individual rights. A lack of clear guidelines can result in the misuse of surveillance for political control or social manipulation, particularly in authoritarian regimes, exacerbating inequalities and undermining public trust (Rothschild, 2024).

There is an urgent demand for clear surveillance policies, ensuring that citizens are informed about how their data is collected, used, and stored. Furthermore, privacy protections must be strengthened through legal frameworks that regulate surveillance practices, particularly in relation to marginalized communities, who are disproportionately impacted by these technologies. Policies that emphasize accountability and oversight, with clear limitations on the scope of surveillance, are essential to prevent abuse. The development of these policies should include diverse stakeholder input, considering cultural, social, and economic contexts to ensure that surveillance technologies are implemented in an ethical and equitable manner

(Zuboff, 2020). Thus, governments and policymakers have a responsibility to create frameworks that safeguard personal freedoms while promoting security, ensuring that surveillance does not infringe upon democratic values or human rights.

This scoping review found limited evidence on the direct impact of state digital-surveillance on social behavior and individual freedoms across diverse cultural contexts. While the data often discussed separate concepts such as privacy, autonomy, and control, researchers were unable to identify comprehensive literature addressing key questions like how different forms of surveillance alter public trust in institutions, why certain populations are more vulnerable to surveillance, or how surveillance practices in authoritarian regimes differ in their societal impact compared to those in democratic societies. Additionally, there was little discussion on how cultural norms and societal values moderate the relationship between public perceptions of surveillance and the actual implementation of these technologies by governments, potentially shaping public behavior and institutional trust. These gaps underscore the need for further research that directly explores the socio-cultural and psychological dimensions of state surveillance in various global contexts.

CONCLUSION

This scoping review provides an overview of the current research landscapes on the societal impacts of state digital-surveillance across different contexts, focusing on its effects on privacy, autonomy, and social behavior. The direct influence of surveillance on the power dynamics within social structures remains insufficiently explored. Our findings highlight significant gaps in the literature, such as the absence of comparative studies on how different forms of surveillance impact various socio-political and cultural contexts, and how these variations affect individual freedoms and societal norms.

We conducted this scoping review to assess the breadth of research on the relationship between state digital-surveillance and social control using a sociological lens. Although the literature offers valuable insights into the intersections between surveillance, power, and control, there is still a notable lack of data comparing the psychological and cultural effects of surveillance across diverse communities. One of the limitations is that the majority of studies focus on technological and policy frameworks, with few quantitative studies analyzing the socio-cultural impact of surveillance on marginalized groups. Researchers have yet to conduct a clear and comprehensive study that examines the nuanced intersections between surveillance practices and their psychological, social, and cultural effects on diverse populations within the context of evolving surveillance technologies.

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