Pros & Cons of Having Intimate Relationships with Cyber-Physical Entities
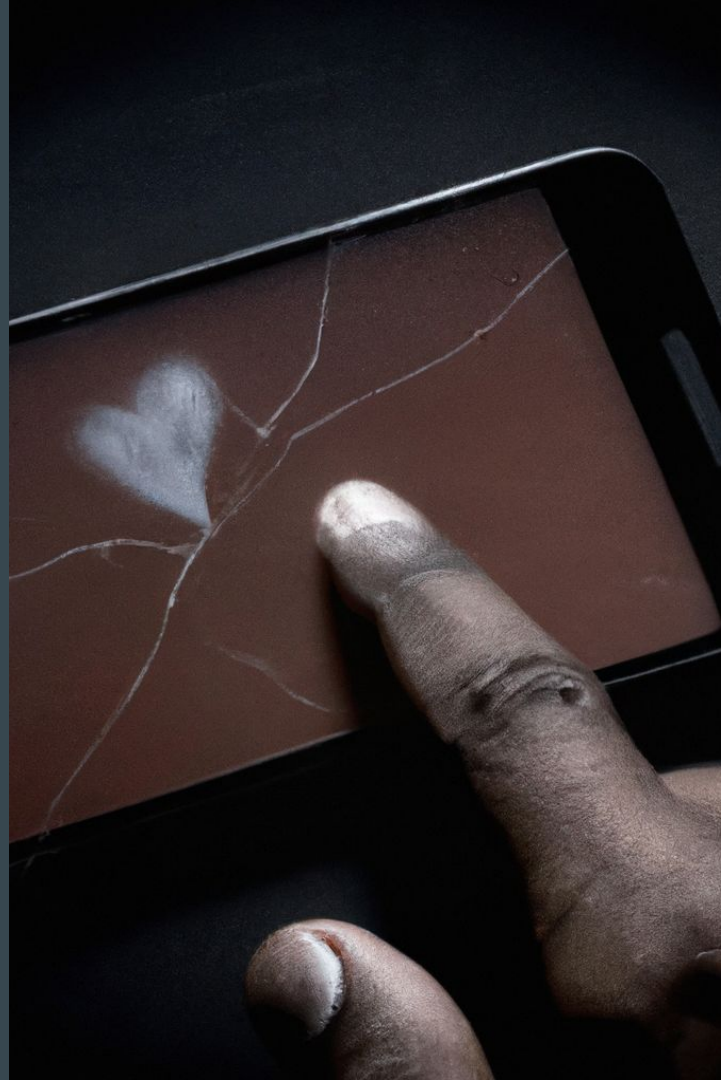
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Team B: Against

Emotional Limitations of Robots

Despite their advanced capabilities, cyber-physical entities cannot replicate the complexity and depth of human emotions and connections. This will leave some individuals feeling unfulfilled emotionally, as well as physically.

Although they can simulate human-like behaviors to some extent, cyber-physical entities are programmed and lack the inherent spontaneity of human interactions. This predictable nature may contribute to a sense of artificiality or dissatisfaction in the long term.

These feelings might lead the individual towards depression, fear, or other forms of anxiety yet to be seen.

Dependency & Isolation

Relying heavily on cyber-physical entities for companionship may lead to increased social isolation and dependency on technology. Over time, this dependency may hinder the development of meaningful connections with other human beings and limit personal growth.

While cyber-physical entities are designed to cater to the user's needs, relying heavily on technology for social interactions can inadvertently lead to self-isolation and withdrawal. An overreliance on technology can create a sense of emotional and intellectual comfort, perpetuating an echo chamber that limits meaningful connections and inhibits personal growth.

Potential Devaluation of Human Relations

Intimate relationships with cyber-physical entities may inadvertently devalue human relationships.

If individuals prioritize their interactions with entities over building connections with other people, it can lead to a decline in social skills and hinder the formation of meaningful bonds with real individuals.

This can have broader societal implications, as it may contribute to a diminishing emphasis on empathy, understanding, and the value of authentic human connections. This will inevitably undermine one's feeling of belonging and our ability to build communities.
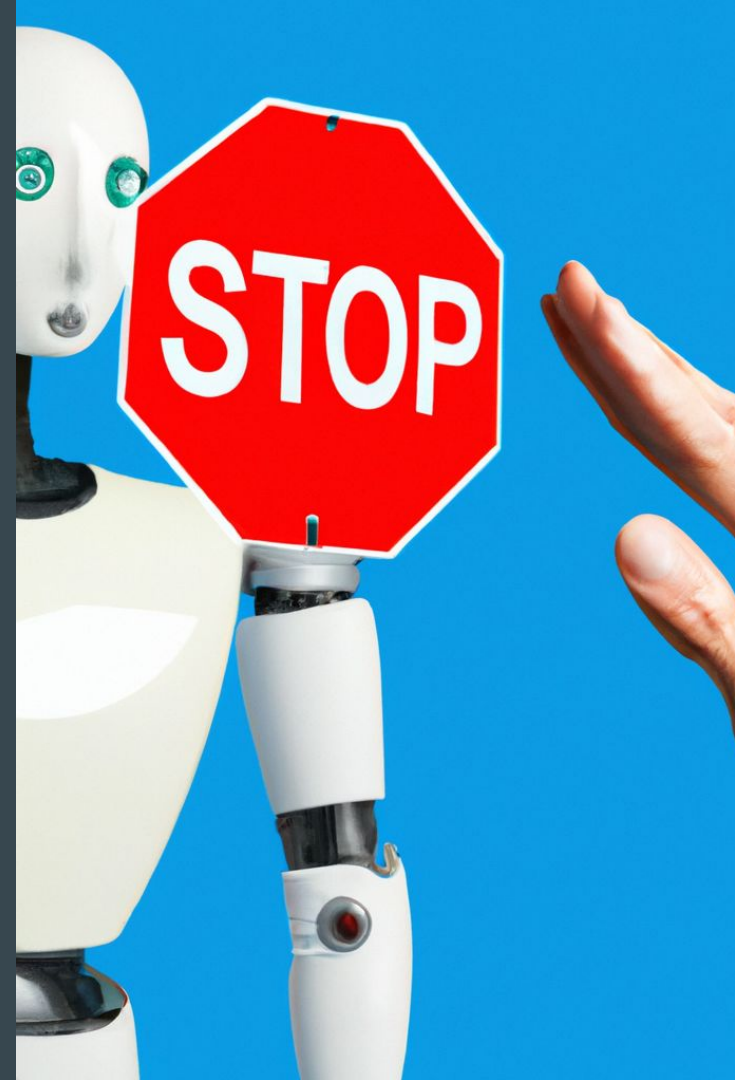
Ethical Concerns

The development and use of cyber-physical entities raise ethical questions regarding consent, objectification, and the potential exploitation of vulnerable individuals.

Animatronic objects do not need to give consent, and while other technologies already existed for sexual purposes (i.e. vibrators), these entities are trying to look like real people, except for autonomy. This can also lead to mimicking other unethical scenarios such as racial stereotypes or critical age differences (i.e. schoolgirls).
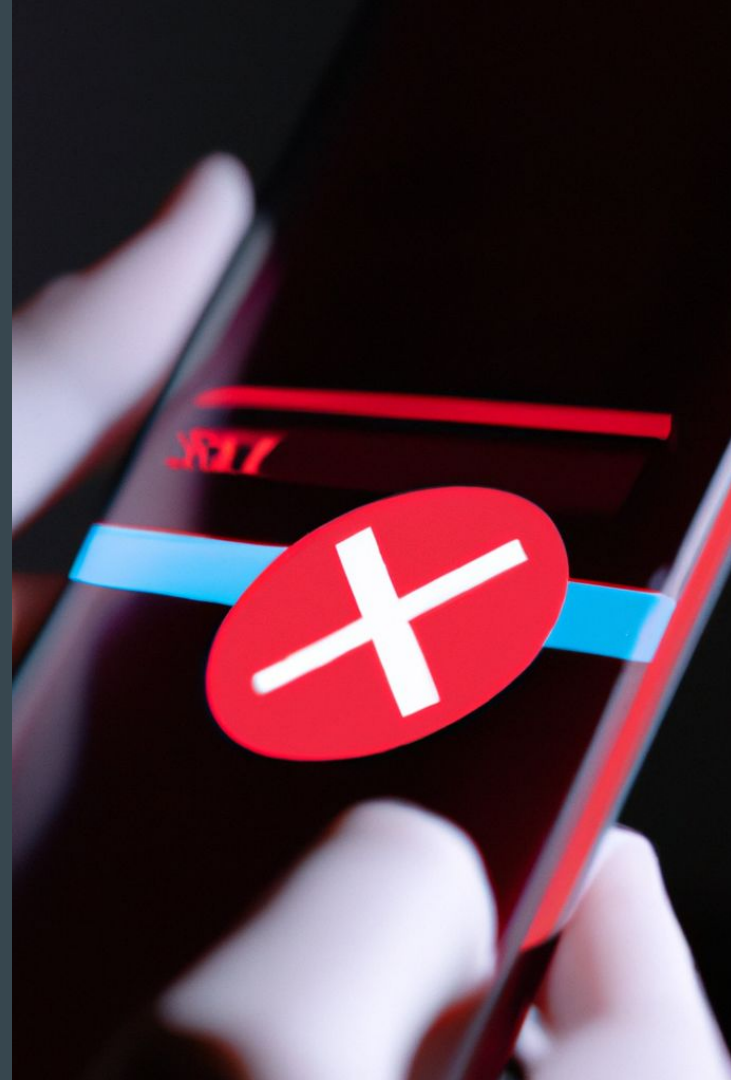
Ensuring that these entities are used responsibly and with respect for human rights and dignity is crucial.

Corporate Privacy Implications

Intimate relationships with virtual entities controlled by capitalistic corporations give rise to profound privacy concerns. These companies have access to and may exploit highly sensitive personal data shared by users, potentially compromising privacy and leading to unauthorized use or breaches of identity information.

It is essential for individuals to prioritize privacy protection to safeguard their personal information from being misused or exploited for corporate gain or malicious intent.

Thank you!

Rebuttal

Availability of cybernetic beings can help support people combat the feeling of loneliness and isolation

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Customizable feature of the relationship

- Develops the confirmation bias and hinders capacity to adapt to other human beings, that are all different in nature

Relationship coaching vs real relationship building