Weekly Reading Summaries – Week 9

• “How Predictive Policing Software Works,” The Verge (February 3, 2016)
  o A YouTube video explaining that predictive policing software uses old crime data to help forecast crimes to aid police in different ways.

• Jason Tashea, “Websites and Apps for Sharing Crime and Safety Have Become Outlets for Racial Profiling,” ABA Journal (August 1, 2106)
  o This article talks about the problem with using data that is discriminatory towards race and how unrepresentative data can cause racial profiling.

  o This article gives a double-sided viewpoint on the implementation of using data to help police predict where and when crime will occur.

• Hector Chaidez, “Interactive Predictive Policing Program in South Pasadena, California,” (July 25, 2016)
  o This is an instructive video targeting officers to help explain how to read and use the predictive policing software.

• Thomas H. Davenport, “How Big Data is Helping the NYPD Solve Crimes Faster,” Fortune.com (July 17, 2016)
  o Talks about Situational Awareness Systems that are used to gather and analyze data in the local environment and how it was used help police do their job more effectively and efficiently.

• “Algorithms in the Criminal Justice System,” Electronic Privacy Information Center
The use of algorithms to try and model the risk of a defendant’s recidivism and whether or not it is lawful to use it in the justice system.

- Julia Angwin, Jeff Larson, Surya Mattu, Lauren Kirchner, “Machine Bias,” ProPublica (May 23, 2016)
  - The use of risk-assessment algorithms to help judges determine sentences and how they can be racially biased to giving higher scores to blacks.

- Response to ProPublica article by developer of computer program
  - Northpointe’s response to “Machine Bias” as to how they misinterpreted data and claim that the algorithm was actually not racially discriminatory towards blacks.

- ProPublica rejoinder to developer’s response
  - ProPublica’s response to Northpointe’s claim that it’s algorithm is equally fair towards both blacks and whites which ProPublica initially questioned and still stands by.