

Artificial Intelligence, A Friend Or Foe?

By Adam Robb

It becomes a cliché at this point, but it always seems to circle back to the human race being demolished by something we created. It's been adapted into many movies and mass media, but the idea of self-aware robots or intelligence taking over has been prominent from the start of artificial intelligence's life. So you don't have to worry about a Terminator-like end to mankind anytime soon.

What is Artificial Intelligence?

Defined by the Merriam-Webster, artificial intelligence is a branch of computer science dealing with the simulation of intelligent behavior in computers. Artificial intelligence, or AI for short, are computers or machines that have human-level intelligence computed into them. This means their thinking process is very similar to human think processes, resulting in a hyper-intelligent being.



Where is AI Used Today?

AI is all around us, on your phone, speakers, computer, and smart home devices. If you use the search engine Google, then you've used artificial intelligence. Google has a process for giving customers advertisements and popular searches based on what you frequently lookup on the site. This is why you might see an advertisement for something that you looked up a week in advance.

Like Google, many AIs are designed to help the human population in some way or another. Recently they are being created to detect and prevent the next pandemic, such as COVID-19. Last year, a Forbes article by Bernard Marr titled "*The 4 top Artificial Intelligence Trends for 2021*" stated that: "Toronto-based BlueDot's tool was already scanning 100,000 governmental and media data sources daily when it issued an alert about a potential outbreak in Wuhan, China, on December 31, 2019". This technology could help us in the later future to stop and prevent a devastating outbreak, like the one that occurs this year.

What If AI Becomes Too Smart?

The idea of AI becoming even more advanced than we perceived is a naturally scaring thought. The idea of being inferior to something we created scares many, but it's not close to

happening anytime soon, or ever. AI can only be as smart as humans are, as they learn and preserve things that humans know. The smartest AI would be as smart as the smartest person, as the AI will only know the extent of knowledge that man knows.

AI is also only limited to knowledge rather than creative and emotional means. It's almost impossible for AI to learn creativity, as that is human nature. Creativity is the expression of one feeling through some form of arts or communication,



and if we can't program for an AI to feel any kind of emotions, then there is no real way it to be creative, not being more intelligent than a human.

In all many feel uneasy about the idea of AI and its usages because they just lack the understanding of these machines and algorithms, and they are ignorant of the usage of AI all around them. In conclusion, it's almost impossible for these machines to take over our everyday lives as they aren't able to feel or be creative enough to take over, so you don't have to worry about a robotic apocalypse anytime soon.