Implications of Surveillance Capitalism
Guest: James Corbett

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Josh: With us today on the summit is researcher and geopolitical analyst, James Corbett. James, welcome.

James: Thank you so much for having me.

Josh: How long have you been doing the *Corbett Report* now?

James: It is going on, it's the twelfth year now. I am into the twelfth year of *Corbett Report*. It started in 2007 from very, very humble beginnings, and I am amazed, constantly amazed, and I have to pinch myself to think about the ways it has grown since I first started it. I like to think of it as an object lesson for people out there that what you do can have resonance and it can make a difference, even if you are just the guy sitting there, as I was when I started this, on a clunky old laptop with a $20 microphone sitting there in my apartment in Japan. It's amazing to think about, but we are in an age where you can reach people around the world with a very humble set up. So, I am trying to take advantage of it while I can, and I always encourage other people to do so. Because, if I can do, trust me, pretty much everybody out there who's listening to my voice right now can do it.

Josh: Very good. We definitely, collectively, each of us are the change, so thanks for your example there. Something I have always enjoyed about your work is that you don't do things just to be popular or to have a big following. You have never done Facebook, right? So, you are just really about the facts

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and the truth and getting the information to people and empowering people. So, thank you for that and so glad you are here with us today. I will just share your brief bio with our audience and then we will dive in.

So, James Corbett has been living and working in Japan since 2004, originally Canadian, right?

James: That's right.

Josh: From where?

James: Calgary, Alberta.

Josh: Excellent! I am from near Vancouver.

James: Well, no one's perfect. You're not a Grizzlies fan, are you?

Josh: Was in a previous life. James started the *Corbett Report* website in 2007, as he mentioned, as an outlet for independent critical analysis of politics, society, history, and economics. Since then, he has written, recorded and edited thousands of hours of audio and video media for this website which is corbettreport.com, correct?

James: That's right.

Josh: Including a podcast and several regular online video series. He is the lead editorial writer for the *International Forecaster*, the e-newsletter created by the late Bob Chapman. So, James, why Japan?

James: Excellent question. I wish I had an excellent answer for it, but it is really just because I was young and impetuous and wanted to see more of the world. And that's the long and short of it. I didn't have any particular interest in Japan before I came. I never really studied Japanese or anything like that. It was literally just a way to spend a year killing time and maybe earning a little bit of money teaching English, and then I was going to come back to Canada and start my real job, whatever that was going to be. Famous last words because now I have been here 15 years. I have a family here, so I am pretty settled in.

Josh: That's excellent. So, diving in. What is 5G's relation to the internet of things?

James: So, people might be tempted. If they only ever encounter the PR propaganda surrounding the 5G rollout, they might tend to think as just

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another generation of mobile network technology. It is just going to be a neutral mobile network for carrying information from one computer device to another.

Of course, we tend to think of computer devices as big clunky things that sit on our desktop or maybe things that sit on our laptop or maybe now, yeah, it's the little gadgets we have in our hands. But, as each generation of mobile network technology advances, of course, the computers tend to get smaller and smaller until they reach the point where the computer, well that's kind of a strange concept at this point. What is that? Is it a thing with an embedded RFID chip that can be read and scanned and tracked and databased and catalogued in real time as it moves through the economy?

We are getting to the point where absolutely everything in the world that is manufactured can have such a device embedded in it and can have space for such a device to be individually registered by an IPV6 which is another technology that helps to enable this internet of things that comes along. Basically, everything that exists and has been manufactured can have its own address in the new IPV6 naming convention that is coming along to replace the old one. So, literally every, I was reading a PR piece recently, every floor tile that is ever manufactured can have its own individual address on IPV6, so they can keep track of it and locate it.

This is where 5G comes in because, obviously, with that amount of data flowing through the networks, I mean, 4G just could not handle that amount of data that quickly that's being processed in real time, tracked, catalogued, databased. So, essentially, this could provide a God's eye view of everything happening in the economy in the world really. That's kind of the dream of 5G technology and that's what it helps to enable. As you say, the internet of things. This new vision that is coming together where it is not just internet of devices like we are used to, like computers and laptops and phones and tablets. Now it is going to be sneakers and fridges and toothbrushes and everything you own is going to be part of that internet and going to be broadcasting information at all times. That can only be enabled by something like the 5G mobile network.

Josh: So, do you think that there is a plan in place to have people be part of this internet of things and basically microchip everyone and to use biometrics in that level? 5G and the internet of things--

James: Yes, unfortunately, that is where this is heading, and I think that might be a later stage of indoctrination. I think technologically we are already there, and some people are already embedding themselves with chips. There has been a number of waves of PR over the last decade and a half surrounding

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the VeriChip, for example, and other commercial implementations of this technology.

I have seen stories from bars in Spain and other places that will let people cut in line. You can get in the club if you just embed a chip and they scan it and you can get in the club early. And these types of stupid PR type events, which are really just promoting this technology and letting the public know it exists and trying to make it seem cool and fashionable, I still think they have a long way to go to really get a lot of the public on board with that. But I think it is coming.

I think the first stage of it will be the wearable devices of various sorts and eventually it is going to be augmented reality through Google glasses or some sort of equivalent and eventually, eventually it will be, well why are you wearing this technology when we can just embed it in you and that will be the brain chip or its equivalent. At some point, that is eventually where this is heading and, again, that will be connected through the internet of things to everything else via the 5G network.

Josh: We have seen, and I mentioned this in *Take Back Your Power* included the clip and you talked about Google's *Creepy Line* and Eric Schmidt's comment about implanting chips in people's brains when the technology is good enough. Kind of with a little bit of a chuckle almost. So, it seems like this is just embedded in the, I guess, the elite culture to move more and more toward that total control, total logging and control and manipulation and whatever else that comes out of it from all of this data. So, just diving in, the internet of things and privacy. What are the implications of what you are describing of how everything can be interconnected in this?

James: I think we can start but just taking a look at what has already been openly admitted about what the internet of things is going to be used for. And, this is coming straight from the horse's mouth, as it were, from the then director of the CIA back in, I believe it was, 2014 at a conference being hosted by In-Q-Tel, which the CIA's venture capital investment firm is. Yes, such a thing exists. So, people who are not familiar with it should look it up, In-Q-Tel. At a summit that they were hosting, then director of the CIA, David Petraeus, openly boasted about the fact that the internet of things was going to be used as another vector by intelligence agencies for spying on the public. And this got picked up by *Wired* and other outlets that talked about the CIA admits that your dishwasher will spy on you, which kind of elicits a chuckle, doesn't it? It is kind of silly sounding, but this is the reality we are moving into.

In the smart home which people are more and more buying into, literally at this point with their Google Nest or their Amazon Echo or their various

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implements that they are implanting in their house now, which people know are surveilling and spying on them and broadcasting that data back to corporate headquarters. Well that is going to be an even greater treasure trove of personal information about you and your daily activities as more and more devices are connected into that smart home nexus.

So, you are going to have a dishwasher and a toaster and a fridge and a washing machine and lights and thermostat and all of these devices are going to be connected in, so that you can make your life more convenient. You can set things with your app, you can automate things, your fridge will be able to order your favorite food when you run out and things like this. This is the way it is being sold to the public. Meanwhile, people like David Petraeus are talking about how, well of course, the CIA is going to use this to spy on targets. And that was further confirmed in 2016 by the then director of National Intelligence, James Clapper, who once again affirmed that the internet of things provides many possibilities and one of them is that, yes, the intelligence agencies will use this to target, track, locate, and surveil targets.

And as we know, as has been revealed over the past few years, the targets that these intelligence agencies are essentially everyone. The NSA is collecting data wholesale on everyone and storing it and, now, that is openly admitted and understood, but it seemed to be just a fact of life in this age. Well, that fact of life is fast catching up to us, because, as I say when every device and appliance and item that you own is broadcasting data about you and your activities at all times to corporate headquarters and, oh yeah, by the way, to intelligence agencies that are listening in, that means, essentially, every aspect of your life. It will be an open book. There will be no such thing as privacy possible. Again, this is only enabled because the 5G networks are able to carry that much data and to ultimately make this a reality. If that was not technologically possible, this would all be pie in the sky thinking but we are getting to the point where, with 5G enabling this, this will be a real possibility.

Josh: In my conversation with Dr. Timothy Schoechle as part of this summit – I encourage everyone, first of all, watch that interview – he lays out the plan for how to wire, wired alternatives to 5G and how local cities can take control of their infrastructure and provide wire fiber to the homes, to the businesses, and so forth. And then there are technologies within the home that can facilitate wired connections. So, help us just to understand here, just to clarify this shift to wireless that seemed to have happened in the early 2000s from fiber from a planned big rollout of fiber to wireless. The internet of things and all these privacy and surveillance concerns would not be possible if everything was wired, correct?

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James: Not to the extent that 5G enables. And that's for a couple of reasons, one of which could be psychological in a sense or at least technical because, as I say, every single device and item and appliance and everything in your home having its own chip and ability to communicate with the internet of things obviously wouldn't be possible if we had to literally physically plug every single thing in. We might be persuaded to plug in the fridge or something, something that happens once in a while but literally, all your floor tiles and your sneakers and your hats and whatever else they want to put on the internet of things, people aren't going to be physically wiring that in.

So, yes, in order to enable, literally everything, you have – And I can't stress this enough. People think this might be an exaggeration but literally every can of coke or whatever other poison that people are ingesting these days will have its own individual device embedded in it. Not a pack, if you buy a pack of coke, it's not the pack, it's each individual can. So, again, it will be able to monitor your daily intake of everything that you do.

People who don't understand the privacy implications of that, I am not sure how I can spell it out any more clearly than to say, literally, every aspect of your life and everything you do and when you go to the toilet and everything else will be data that will be databased and collected and analyzed by artificial intelligence. But, if you ever become a target of interest to these intelligence agencies, I am sure they individually will be able to use that information in any number of ways to understand your habits, to track your networks, to know what you are talking about, and who you are talking to and eventually be able to predict rather accurately what you are going to do based on what you are searching or what you are talking about with your friends or where you are going.

Again, the level of control this provides over people is almost unimaginable and the best way to get a handle on it is probably to look at dystopian science-fiction because the things that people were warning about and were nightmares decades ago are turning into reality that people are almost eager for at this point. In 1948, George Orwell could right about 1984 and Big Brother and the telescreens. They are in every home and they are watching you. Now people are literally buying objects that are spying on them that they know are spying on them. "Alexa, order me a doll house." And our inviting this technology into their home, which is something almost unimaginable for someone from a previous generation who would have thought of that as the ultimate nightmare.

Josh: When I was making *Take Back Your Power* in 2013 is when the Snowden story broke and you have a really, I think, very empowering perspective on Snowden. But how it was filtered through the media or how the

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media, I think on purpose, directed this story was not to look at the data of what was actually being revealed, so that something could be done about it but was is he a good guy or a bad guy.

So, it seems like that the way that that was portrayed, perhaps even like subconsciously, psychologically, gave us the message that there's nothing really you can do about it. So, how do you answer that question, James? If you have explained all of these privacy implications and the fact that this isn't done yet, we can still change this, but somebody might say, "Well, they already have all the data or whatever" or "I'm not doing anything illegal" or "I don't mind being transparent." How do you respond to that?

James: I think the first thing is to acknowledge and understand that there are psychological operations underway to make the public accept and normalize this as a fact of life. Well, yes, it is spying on you but what does it matter? I mean, who cares if they know what you are watching on TV or something, what does it really matter? You're not doing anything wrong, so it doesn't matter anyway. That attitude is being actively implicated right now as part of a coordinated propaganda campaign.

I would like to think that that is readily apparent but, if not, then yes studying something like the reaction to the Snowden revelations, which I always put in quotation marks, because there were other NSA whistle blowers before Snowden who revealed much of this information who don't seem to get as much of the spotlight which is interesting in and of itself because, as you say, they make it about the person rather than about the details. Details, shmetails. Is this guy a good guy or was he a traitor? They spin the conversation off which I think is part of that propaganda campaign.

But the interesting, I guess, ramification of the fact that there is a coordinated psychological campaign being waged against the public to get them to normalize and accept this technology and the spying is that your opinion matters. Your psychological relation to this technology is an important point. So much so that there will be active coordinated campaigns to try to get you to see and embrace this technology in a certain way. If your opinion didn't matter, they wouldn't be so actively trying to sway your opinion on issues like this.

So, what the question then is what stance or what position can we take that will actually empower us, that will actually bring the power of this technology. I am not a Luddite and I don't think technology is evil or that we should avoid it but, obviously, we have to embrace it in the right way for the right reasons and knowing that it can be used this way or that way or in a different way. So,

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if we embrace something consciously and with intention, we can direct that technology in the direction that would be good for humanity.

So, it does involve, what I call, buycotts and boycotts. It involves actively supporting things, it doesn't necessarily have to do with monetary exchange. I mean, we could be talking about free and open-source software, for example, and things like that, but supporting things that are in line with our ideals and not buying the things that are spying and surveilling use. I don't look at this from a position on the clouds, "I am so perfect, and everyone should be like me." Certainly not.

I have a pocket sleeve device. I know, not only is it irradiating me and all of that, but I know it is tracking and surveilling and spying on me. I am not perfect either. I do insist that my next phone will be a flip phone but, for the time being, I've got the little tracker in my pocket, so I am not floating on a cloud about this. At any rate, I don't have Alexa or Echo or Google Nest or any of these other devices that are now being normalized in my home. Honestly, I am getting detached enough from the general culture to the point that I have to be reminded that there are people who want that technology in their home. For me, it IS still the nightmare. I still look at it from that perspective. Why would you invite that spying technology into your home, but I get that there are people who are enticed by that. "IT is so great. I can Google things on the fly by asking Alexa" or "I can order things and it is so easy and convenient."

So, it is choice that we have to make, OK how far are we going to immerse ourselves in this technology and when are we going to start pushing back and saying no and taking our power back. When will that happen? And what line do we draw? And will we stick up to it? In the face of overwhelming social pressure, "Oh, you are one of those weird conspiracy theorists that thinks the government is spying on them. Oh, the government is spying on you? Well you are still weird for thinking that's weird." Or, not only the social pressure but, as I say, the convenience. It will be more and more convenient to get along with these technologies. It will be more and more difficult to live without these technologies. More and more jobs and positions will depend on you being able to be on Facebook, to carry this little slave device, to participate in these technologies. So, it will get harder and harder and we have to draw a line somewhere. And we have to start pushing back because if we do not, then, unfortunately, it's the herd immunity type of situation where, yes, you personally might be opting out of these technologies but 99% of the people around you will be and the 5G network will be going up around you so, there is no way to physically avoid it.

Josh: Yeah, which is why spreading this awareness and information is so important. We get together and organize and self-organize and, like you said,

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draw a line in the sand. Very good. When Tom Wheeler, FCC chair at the time in 2016, was so excited to announce 5G, he was talking about tens of billions of dollars and we have to be the first. And now we are seeing this new cold war that Trump's talking about, USA versus Russia, we've got to win the race to 5G. How big – have you heard any numbers, James, or dug into the research and maybe verified – how big do you think this new economy is, this 5G internet of things, surveillance capitalism, related economy? How much money and financial motivation are we talking about here.

James: I've heard various figures thrown around and I'm certainly no economist, so I wouldn't venture to guess which one of them is correct or even in the ballpark but, perhaps, it is one of those things we can't even properly fathom at this point because there are certain things that invaluable or inestimable. I think there is a lot of hype that goes around trying to sell this technology to the public, but, one thing I probably agree with people like Wheeler who in his press conference in 2016 said, "When everything is connected to the internet from your cell phone to your watering can, who knows what the next big app will be or the next killer app that this technology will enable will be." And he has a point. We don't really even know what's going to take off and what kind of things are going to be enabled through this yet. Because, again, it pervades our life in a way that we can't even begin to fathom at this point.

And as much as this technology and 4G networks enabled all sorts of things that people wouldn't have expected even a decade ago, things like Uber and Lift and these types of things that are changing the economy in ways that we are only starting to grasp. But now the technology is moving on and it's going to be something else. So, I don't think it is really estimable, but it is going to be a profound effect.

And, as you say, every step of it will be monetized to the point where data, as I have pointed out on a podcast before, and is becoming something of a coined term at this point, data is the new oil in the way that oil was the lifeblood of the economy in the early part to the mid part of the 20th century and even the late 20th century. In the 21st century, data is going to be an important part of the economic matrix that we are living in as information is power. Information is the new currency, well data is the new oil and people are going to make incredible fortunes off it and we are already, of course starting to see that with the Silicone Valley big tech giants, billionaires arising from the pile out of this.

So, it is a new economy and how big it will be, who knows, but then again, that's just how many zeros on the end of that figure. Does it really matter at the end? What is money anyway? It's dead. There are a number of things to examine when we try to keep points on the score board with dollars and cents.

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At a certain point, it doesn't even matter. The point is the power that comes with it. Money is essentially about power. When people are playing at that level of the game, when you are starting to talk about the billions and trillions, eventually it is just about the power that you have over people.

Josh: So, on the other hand – I mean, I am starting to see this – what are your thoughts on this, the idea that with all of these problems associates with 5G, for example we are seeing carriers move away, some of them, indications of moving away from millimeter wave technology because it doesn't go through walls because they need it every few homes. Just higher raising up the power and realization that there are health effects. The IEEE website is talking about the health effects from millimeter wave radiation. Are you seeing the potential, as we get involved in this conversation and help to shift it and wake people up, for bubble and bubble bursting situation with all of this investment and all this big push for 5G and nobody really knows what it is?

James: It is possible. It hasn't happened yet. This isn't set in stone, so I certainly do think it is absolutely possible that this agenda that is clearly a driven agenda can be derailed and the health issues and the health effects that are now becoming undeniable is certainly one of those vectors. And it is starting to catch on in the general public awareness and I am seeing signs of that and that is to the good.

But, I think, there is also a trap that we can stumble into here. If the health effects are the only thing about this technology that we concentrate on and we miss the surveillance factor that is also enabled by these technologies, then, if they can demonstrate the safety of the technology or at least for the normy, the average population, "Well it's good enough and it probably won't cause cancer." If they can demonstrate something like that, or if they could replace it with a different technology that has the same properties but doesn't have the health effects, then there is no reason to oppose it, right? It is good to have this constant flow of data and everything connected to everything else in the internet of things. That is a good thing. The only problem is the health effect. Well, if we can put the health effects to the side there is no reason to oppose it. Well, no, that's not true.

The internet of things is a nightmare, a nightmare in terms of our ability to live our lives in anything approaching freedom. Freedom from constant surveillance and control. Because, again, something I have gestured toward in this conversation, but I hope people will cogitate on, is that the amount of data that we are talking about in terms of the micro understanding of every activity that you do is data that you can use predictably. And people who are interested in that concept should look at even some things that have come out publicly about things that are going on in the skunk works of the Pentagon.

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There was a project whose name I am not going to remember off the top of my head, but there was a project for constructing essentially a simulated reality that was going to take in all of this information that they were already collecting at that time. We're talking about a decade ago that *Wired* and other mainstream publications were writing about this project. Taking all of the data that they were scooping up from whatever it was, whatever sources they admit and what they don't, your e-mails and your telephone calls and your mail and your credit card transactions and everything else and putting that into basically a simulated profile of you.

And I say you as an individual, because this program was going to try to construct a simulation of the real world and every single person in it which sounds insane and is insane if you think about it, unless you have the type of data that is enabled with the 5G network with the internet of things where you really can start to construct profiles of every single person on the planet. It is a mindboggling task.

And the idea of this, again this is not coming from me it is coming from mainstream sources – I know *Wired* did report on it at the time. The idea of this was they were going to start using that to predict future events because with that amount of data coming in constantly in real time, you can start to see patterns and you can start to make predictions about what is going to happen. Again, it sounds like science-fiction fantasy but the more that you look at the way this is being directed – at any rate, people in positions of power do believe that this is possible with artificial intelligence and other things that are coming to deep mine, data mine your personal individual profiles.

It is extremely unsettling to think about and I think the one thing we have to underline in this conversation is that the reason that this is being done-- There is a guiding ideology behind this, one called technocracy, I hope people listening to this conversation will be familiar with. But, if not, this was a philosophy that was developed in the early part of the 20th century. It was actually formalized in the 1930s with the incorporation of a group called Technocracy Inc. It was co-founded by Howard Scott who was something of a charlatan and a conman but, apparently a very good talking one or an effective one because he got many people including M. King Hubbert, who many people might remember as Hubbert's Peak, i.e. Peak Oil, the geophysicist at Shell who came up with the concept of Peak Oil in the 1950s. Well back in the 1930s he was one of the co-founders of Technocracy Inc. with Howard Scott. They were literally roommates at one point.

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M. King Hubbert wrote Technocracy Inc.'s bible called The *Technocracy Study Course*, where at that time, in the 1930s, they were talking about how, in order to have a technocracy, i.e. a community which was going to be run by scientists and engineers and economists and people with special knowledge of certain things, so they could precisely scientifically order society and make a utopia, of course. Well their idea was, in order to do that, they were going to need information on everything in the economy in real time. They were going to have to know what was being manufactured, how much, how much energy input did it take, how was it being sold, where, for what price, whose buying it, and where is it moving and how are people using it and consuming it. All of this information, if they could collect it all and analyze it in real time, they would be able to use that in order to perfectly balance society and direct it in the best way that the scientists could to make everything happy, blah, blah, blah. It sounded, I am sure, like absolute crackpot insanity in the 1930s to be talking about it.

Fast forward less than a century and here we are talking now about the internet of things where literally everything that is manufactured will have its own address and have its own chip and will be connected to the internet of things and monitored and tracked in real time, giving all of this data to central bureaucracies of various sorts, intelligence agencies and others, in order to enable the technocratic dream. Now, of course, people like Howard Scott and M. King Hubbert may have forwarded this philosophy because they genuinely believed that scientists could perfectly order society and make everyone happy, but, unfortunately, as always, there are other people who are paying the bills of people like Howard Scott and M. King Hubbert, again Hubbert literally working for Shell Oil. People who pay the bills of these idealists might have different agenda items that they want to take off when it comes to a philosophy like this and what they are going to do with that data.

So, I think this is part of the explanation for the headlong rush toward 5G. This is the reason why we are never going to get a reasonable answer from the people who are pushing this agenda as to, well why now? Why do we have to do it right now? Why can't we hold off a few years? Let's do some more tests. Why don't we have an open debate about this? No. It has to be done right now. I think it is that they're rushing toward the implementation of an agenda that they have been working on for decades and decades behind the scenes. I think if the public becomes aware of that, it might be harder to sell that to the public.

Josh: As part of the summit, I believe it was mentioned, researcher Patrick Wood also speaks on technocracy. I encourage everyone to check that out. Now Patrick as done, for decades, research with, I believe, Anthony C. Sutton, on the Trilateral Commission going back to the early 70s. Zbigniew Brzezinski,

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key player in this technocratic movement you talk about. Again, behind the scenes, David Rockefeller and Zbigniew, coming together and basically forming the Trilateral Commission, right?

James: That's exactly right, yeah, back in the early 1970s. Then very shortly after the founding of Trilateral Commission, they ended up essentially taking over the White House with the Jimmy Carter Administration being comprised almost entirely of Trilateral Commission members. The Cabinet members were almost all Trilaterals. For a brand-new group, it is surprising who quickly they essentially gained control of the White House.

Josh: Wow! Then even in the mainstream media was reporting that, behind the scenes, Brzezinski was a mentor, a guide, to President Obama during his time in office, so having been groomed at an early age makes a lot of sense. I am just going to read for audience here a Zbigniew Brzezinski quote from *Between Two Ages: America's Role in the Technetronic Era.* Was this 1973 also, James? Do you know the approximate date on his book?

James: I believe it was 1970, but I would have to double check that.

Josh: So, this is the quote from 1970: "The technotronic era involves the gradual appearance of a more controlled society. Such a society would be dominated by an elite, unrestrained by traditional values. Soon it will be possible to assert almost continuous surveillance over every citizen and maintain up-to-date complete files containing even the most personal information about the citizen. These files will be subject to instantaneous retrieval by the authorities." And a second quote, a little bit shorter here: "In the technotronic society the trend would seem to be towards the aggregation of the individual support of millions of uncoordinated citizens [so herding and controlling people], easily within the reach of magnetic and attractive personalities [PR for selling it to us] exploiting the latest communications techniques to manipulate emotions and control reason."

This is the most critical agenda that we really need to become aware of in terms of what's happening on the planet right now and how we are being engineered, as you have already stated, to accept this new normal, where people no longer have rights essentially. There was a court case, I believe in 2018, to do with smart meter data and privacy and now courts are balancing the rights of the individual with the greater good. Can you talk a little bit about, more about this mindset and about this side of things here?

James: Well there is an interesting addendum to those Brzezinski quotes and perhaps that helps us to take a little bit of our power and put this in a more positive framework. Several decades later, so about a decade ago in 2007 or 8,

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Brzezinski was on the talk circuit at that time talking at a number of events and even pending an Op-Ed for the International Herald Tribune about a different era that we have moved into in the internet age. The point that he was making was essentially that, in the internet age, the ability to transmit information and to spread awareness, like what we are doing, hopefully with this conversation and ones like it, is transforming the world. It is politicizing populations in a way that had never really been experienced before.

So, millions and millions of people are becoming more politically aware and engaged, which he saw as a problem, obviously, because now we have many more people trying to take up a slice of this pie that was previously the realm of the Trilaterals and a very select few. So, how do we deal with this problem? And, he made the interesting point that it used to be easier to control a million people than to kill a million people, but that calculus might be flipping. It might be easier kill a million people than to control a million people. Please look this up. He really did talk about this and there's recordings of it. It's a chilling statement for someone like Zbigniew Brzezinski who has been in and around the corridors of power for decades. He is recently deceased, but who was a very high up member of the cabal that has been steering this and the technocratic mindset. To talk so blithely about, "Well, yes, we may have reached a point where it might be easier to kill a billion people than to control them."

And, what does that mean for our position in all of this as we approach this era where we are starting to make very important decisions about how we move forward with this technology. The technology that might be the literal technology of our own enslavement and, potentially, our own destruction. Some pretty important choices we are making, I hope you will grant. So, again, I think if there is a positive message from this, it is once again – again what is it that these technocrats and these micromanagers, would-be micromanagers, to society fear? It is an aware and engaged population. This is what they spend their time thinking about, "Uh oh! More people are becoming politically active and aware and engaged. And they are talking to each other through this technology. Hum, this might be a problem. How do we control this problem?"

Well it is a problem for them because we can make a difference and what we choose to do, what we choose to buy or not to buy, who we choose to interact with, what ideas we take on board, what we do, the way we act in the world does make a difference. And these people at the very top are not all-seeing gods that can manipulate reality in whatever way they wish. They too have to influence the public to go along with it. Essentially to accept their own enslavement and, perhaps, their own destruction. Well, let's not accept that.

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And, if we do start digging in our heels, we can make a difference on these issues.

Josh: Well said. I would add to that list, an action that I am seeing, that we as an organization are seeing as a very powerful and prominent step for us to take is a blanket awareness campaign onto and toward our elected officials, because they are getting lobbied by industry. The wireless industry and the energy/utility industry are two of the three biggest industries on the planet and they are not made aware by enough people so far. But that's starting to change now. So, that's what this summit is really helping to facilitate. The actions to our elected reps to not only inform them and say, "Look we are all in this together." Nobody gets a get out of jail free card on this. That's why we are seeing a lot of local governments really start to begin to sue the FCC, begin to pass legislation. In other countries, this is going very strongly as well.

Jumping in, James, we need to wrap up in a few minutes but I have three questions, and if we can do these each in a couple of minutes, it would be great. Touching in on the Chinese social credit system, already, speaking of control and surveillance. What can you tell us as far as what's going on in China and is that same controlling system, the ground work, being laid in the United States and other countries and, if so, what is it's relation to 5G?

James: Right. So, for people who are unaware, in China right now, they are starting to roll out, and it already exists in some form and is being used, basically a system of control that is not over boots in your face control. It is a point system where you can earn points, social credit points, if you do things that the government approves of and you will be docked points if you do things that the government does not like. It sounds rather innocuous, "Well it is just social credit points. I mean it's not like they are putting you in jail or anything. It could be worse." Well, actually it is even more insidious than actually being physically enslaved because at that point, people tend to revolt.

But when it is a system of control that is based on rewarding this behavior and punishing that behavior in a nebulous way that people can't necessarily connect to their lives. It can be brought in as an exceptionally impactful way of controlling a society as large as China with over a billion people. How do you corral all of those cats? Well, if you have something like a social credit score. So now people are literally being banned, for example, from flying or taking high speed trains and other infrastructure because they are deemed a risk because their credit score is too low.

It is interesting to see the mainstream media reaction to this and portraying it from the Western perspective, "Oh, look at what those evil Chinese are doing!" But, obviously, there are aspects of this that are coming in at home, not only

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actual literal ones like in Canada right now there are things like the "Carrot app". It's rewarding people for taking a jog or getting your vaccines or doing other things that the government tells you is as good as fresh air. It is so good for you. You have to do it and we'll give you some points. So, that is already starting to come in but, even in less obvious ways or at least less score-based ways.

For example, I mean with the recent waves of social media censorship of various sorts. Banning people for having political wrong-think or saying the wrong words is a form of controlling people's behavior through technology and that is one of the key aims, I think, of the technocratic – I shouldn't use term elite – the technocrats is they want to control people through the technology. Control their behavior so that they don't even have to predict what you are going to do. Essentially, they are going to shape what you are going to do by giving you certain choices and making you choose the easy path rather than the hard path.

Josh: Can you talk about if the climate change and the environmental movement has been hijacked by corporate interests and a Hegelian dialectic?

James: They certainly have. And that's a very big story and one that I tell in a couple of documentaries called "How and Why Big Oil Conquered the World" available for free at corbettreport.com/bigoil. So, please, take a look at that. But essentially, the answer is yes. The environmental movement was not just hijacked. In many ways it was really, if not founded, at least brought into existence in the way that we know it by literal card-carrying Eugenicists, people like Julian Huxley, brother of Aldous Huxley who wrote *Brave New World* who was the director of UNESCO, the founder of UNESCO who was also a card-carrying Eugenicist.

Eugenics is an exceptionally important part of this story and it gives another mindset into this technocratic class of people that are pushing 5G and these other technologies. Essentially, the idea that their genes are just so much better that they deserve to rule over everyone else which is a type of scientific gloss on the old divine right of kings and other justifications for elite rule. Well now in the scientific age, oh it's your genes. This is a late 19th century pseudoscience. It's quackery but it was very, very popular among very rich people for obvious reasons. Oh yes, we do deserve to rule over everyone. Unfortunately, that mindset never left the elite class. Again, I shouldn't use that term, the people who have money and power, it never left them. But it did get sullied by things like the Nazis and World War II and what have you. So, they can't use the term Eugenics anymore.

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It became about overpopulation. “There’s too many people. Too many poor people. Too many poor, brown people. We need to kind of get rid of that and have more of the good kind of people breeding.” So, they have kind of just changed the mask. Then, with the rise of environmental awareness and the ecology in the 1960s, *Silent Spring* Rachel Carson and things like that. Essentially that movement was taken over by these very same people, again for the same purpose of trying to direct society toward the culling of the “excess” population and bringing up, raising up of the “better sort”. You can see this in the founders of WWF, the World Wildlife Federation, and these other types of things.

Again, it is an interesting mix of literal oil barons and Eugenicists, often the same thing, merging to direct the environmental movement, which is now almost synonymous, it is almost 100% about carbon dioxide, interestingly enough. But, of course, because that is a choke point of economy. If you can control energy, then you essentially control the economy and, if you control the economy, you can control the direction of humanity itself. And that was something that the oil barons learned in the late 19th century by monopolizing the oil industry. We control energy, we control the world essentially. Well they are just trying to do that in a different form for the post-carbon world that we are moving into where everything will be so green and wonderful and merged with everything else in the internet of things so there can be a constant surveillance of everything going on in the economy. But it is only for good things. It’s only so that we can reduce bad energy and get green energy, or something like that. It is good for you, just don’t question.

Josh: Isn’t it amazing that the same sort of string pullers have, for example, controlled and exerted their control over the U.S. Patent Office and other international patent agencies which, have, we now know, systematically suppressed certain technologies, more than 5000 in the U.S. Patent Office alone that are deemed to be not in the interest of national security. So, reinterpret that as corporate the corporate national – we know it is a corporation – corporate security. Isn’t that interesting. Also, I would encourage everyone out there to do an internet search and look up “Al Gore, World’s First Carbon Billionaire,” *New York Times*. Suffice it to say. James, are you supportive of Bitcoin and Cryptocurrency?

James: I differentiate the two because Bitcoin is a form of Crypto but Crypto is not Bitcoin. I stress this because Bitcoin and Cryptocurrency and Digital Currency and Blockchain and all of these words tend to get thrown in one basket and lumped together and I think that is part of the psychological operation to essentially make the public think that it’s all the same thing so that eventually when there is Fedcoin and, “Hey, the federal government is going to give you this wallet to take. It’s like this Bitcoin thing you have been

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hearing about, so just take this wallet and you can do all your transactions that way." That is the nightmare of total surveillance of the economy where literally everything we will be tracked and stored in a database forever and it will be personally identifiable in your name by the central government or whoever hands you the wallet.

That is the exact opposite of the reason that Cryptocurrencies were first created and propounded which was to escape the central bank system. So, it is an interesting, like so many technologies, it's the double-edged sword and one way it cuts the population and one way it cuts the banks. Which way do you think that banks are going to try to wield that? Of course, it is going to be trying to cut the population. So, I am very wary about the ways that Bitcoin, specifically, is being steered by Blockstream, which as you will find out if you go do the research, is funded by AXA which has a Henri de Castries at the top and, "Oh where is he?" Oh, he is also on the Bilderberg Steering Committee. So, there are a some very, very shady things going on in the Crypto world right now.

I still believe that the intention behind Crypto, or at least the one many people signed onto when they first heard about Cryptocurrency and the reason why it became such a grassroots phenomenon is because it does offer AN alternative to the economy that has been built up around us. I always say AN alternative because people are always looking for THE, pardon the pun, silver bullet, as if everything has to be Crypto, or everything has to be gold, or everything has to be something or other. I say there are many options on the table, and we should use all of them because they have different use cases and different things.

So, Cryptocurrency is A thing, which I think CAN be used in the right way like so many other technologies. It CAN be used for good. It can also be used to construct the perfect prison and I know which way they are trying to steer it right now. So, I want people to be very careful about these sorts of things and start to learn the nuance of things like what is Bitcoin? What is Cryptocurrency? What is Blockchain? What are these different terms mean and how are they being used? And start to pay attention to that because you will see some interesting things.

Josh: Anything specifically, as far as guidance for humanity on how we could do the Cryptocurrency in a way to ensure that it's in the good of people and protecting individual rights?

James: The absolute key, the bottom baseline of this is that it has to be an open permissionless network in order for it to have any meaning as a Cryptocurrency in the sense that we want. It will pseudonymous. People

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should not think that this is anonymous. It is pseudonymous. Every transaction will be traceable to an address. An address is not necessarily a person though. A person may have millions of addresses, an address may be a million people. There are many different ways for this to be arranged and, again, it can be done in a way that protects your individual anonymity more or less. Again, we have to think about all of those nuances. Again, the network itself has to be open and permissionless.

What they are trying to do is create these controlled networks that are going to be essentially governed and dictated by the central banks and watched over by various institutions and they are going to sell it as, "It's the same thing." You know, don't look at what my left hand is doing, oh here you go, now here's a wallet take this. So, if we understand is this open, is this a permissionless network or is this going to be a closed Blockchain which is going to be administered by a central bank. These are important distinctions.

Unfortunately, the way Bitcoin is being steered right now, in order to solve the problem of well we don't want to settle transaction on-chain so we will do it off-chain. How do we do that? Oh, we'll have to start a lightening network and suddenly we start to get these ideas of the essential reason why something like Bitcoin exists, which is to facilitate transactions without the need for a middleman. Well it is a little bit easier if we slip a middleman in there. Well there's a middleman so, of course, they have to have KYC, know your customer.

So, now you have to send in your blood sample and your next of kin and whatever it is in order to get an account so that you can now trade. Everything that this was supposed to be against suddenly is being embraced. And that is the thing we have to understand, when that sleight of hand happens, suddenly we don't want to be part of that system. Again, we have to look at the ways it is being used and the types of terms that are being used because a lot of this is just meant to confuse the public.

Josh: Really good, James. It has been so good just to talk about this with you. Thank you so much for your insight and your wisdom. Just in closing, are you optimistic and, if so, what are some keys for humanity to ensure a positive future?

James: Well let me go back to a point we have made a couple of times in this conversation which is, that if our opinions and our actions didn't matter, I don't think these people would be trying to influence them so heavily. So, we do have a part to play in this, whether actively or passively. We can just sit back and let things happen as is so easy to do and then just accept whatever comes, but we know where that system is being directed, so we know where

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that will end up. OR we can stand up and try to do something about it. And I can't say THE something that is because there are many, many somethings that can be done about it.

It depends on the person, each individual who is listening to this conversation will have their own perspectives, their own experience, their own skills, their own talents, their own strengths, their own weaknesses. You know what it is you can do. The thing you can do could be anything, I don't know, painting a painting or whatever it is. Whatever it is that you do, there is a way that you do, there's a way that you can do that and harness that to helping to spread awareness about these issues and helping to combat the issues. Or there are ways you can do it to just go along with the system in order to succeed on the terms that the system provides.

I think we all understand when it is we are selling out and when it is we are going the right thing. I think, if we have that awareness and that consciousness, once you have this information, it is your choice what to do with it. And I am telling you, you can make a difference by standing up and being an example for others and showing other people you are not crazy for thinking there's something going on here.

At the very least, just step back. Don't participate in this thing. Don't buy into this thing. Don't jump on the band wagon. Just doing that can be an example that other people will see and that can have a ripple effect on society in ways that you might not even be able to comprehend. But do this knowing that you are making a difference and that your mind and the way that you interact with other people, and the things that you believe, the things that you buy, the things that you do, the things that you talk about, the people you talk to, all of that makes a difference.

And it is something that if you start directing your conscious attention to it, it will have an effect. And people like Zbigniew Brzeski and others will worry about this problem of too many people starting to take back their power. "Uh oh, what are we going to do about it?" and that is the position we want them to be in, running away instead of running toward their goal.

James: We talked briefly just before the start of the call about world views or consciousness or spiritual perspectives and so forth, but really it comes down to valuing the essence of life of a family of those things that matter and really taking a stand for life. Not that we are focusing on fighting something evil like this, but we are really standing for life and we're choosing – it's almost like we don't know the outcome, right, James? There is no guarantee of, if we take action, it is going to produce a specific result or success at this point. With all that is going on, there is no guarantee of a specific outcome, but it is the right

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thing to do, isn't it? And it is trusting in and choosing to align with a benevolent future, trusting in the benevolent force, call it God or Creator or "The Force."

It is choosing to align with that and acting accordingly, isn't it? You seem like, you have been doing that for a while now. Just speaking truth and offering it out there. Your website, I would encourage everyone to go to corbettreport.com and please consider donating via James's patron page and supporting his work because he is getting regular content out. And get on his e-mail list for sure and help his work go viral, too. So, James, thank you again so much for joining us today on this summit. Let's definitely keep in touch and we will be following your work.

Josh: Thank you so much.

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