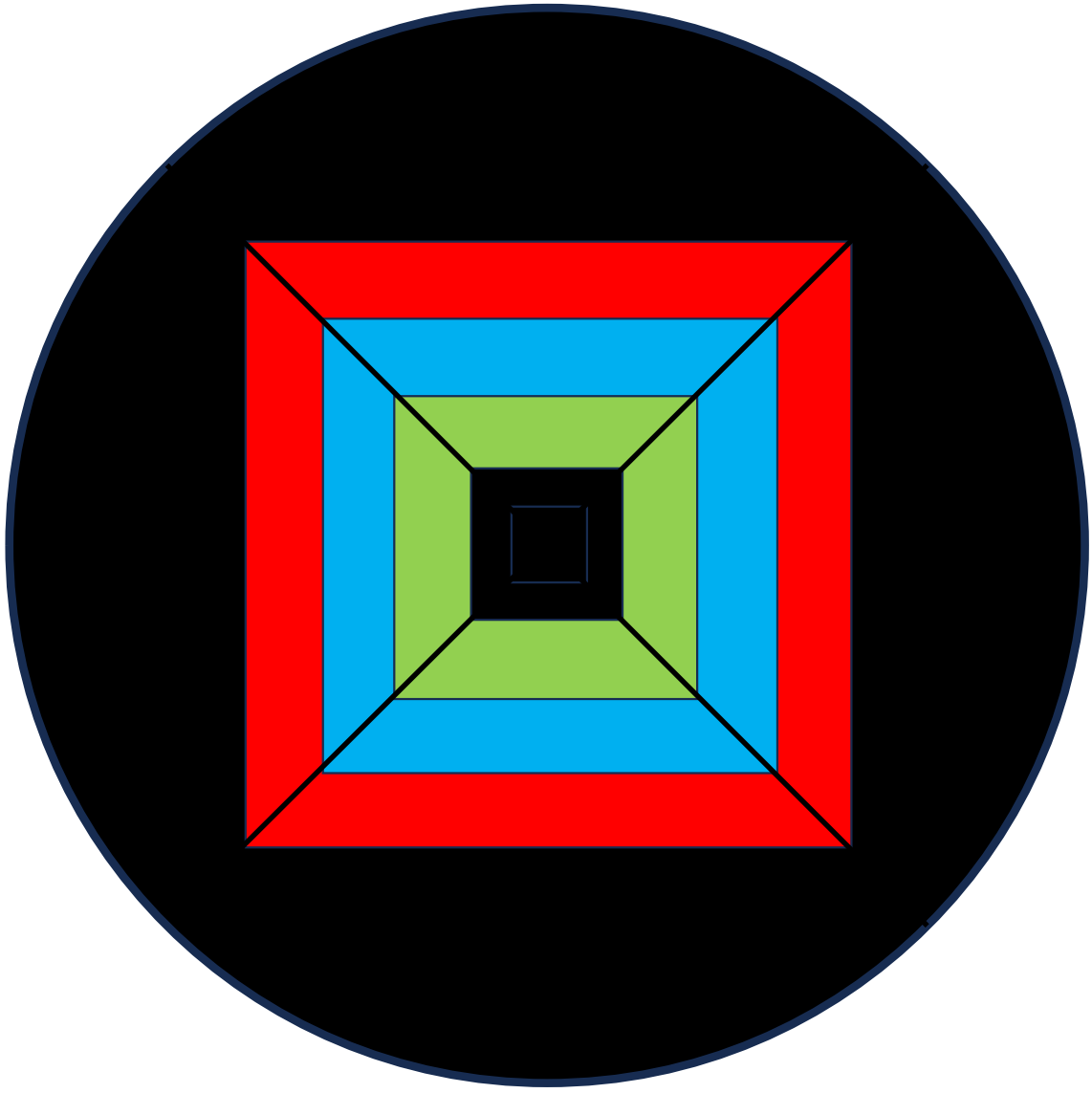*A Visual Representation of*

Black Box Programming, Research Hierarchy & Infrastructure

Private Equity

Consulting

Corporations

R1 Universities

Other (*the "Black Box"*)

Issues, Concerns & Reports

- Reports of bias in the rules surrounding the type of data that may be used for specific research purposes.
- Reports of "data extraction hierarchy" which results in institutions with the lowest-ranking being subjected to the most controversial research (e.g., *Tuskegee Experiments).*
- Reports concerning the lack of infrastructure and reporting structures to support reasonable and appropriate inquiry when legitimate questions arise concerning certain research practices and policies.
- Reports of an inability to report data breaches and other violations in real time.

- Reports of certain individuals, entities, and groups being able to procure highly customized data for unspecified and undocumented research purposes.
- Reports that such practices are widely used by new ventures operating in "stealth mode", especially when such entities are in the early stages of securing seed money and other financing for potentially risky and controversial ventures.
- Reports of "live research" being conducted upon data subjects from lower ranked institutions by stakeholders from a higher-ranked category.
- Reports of an inability to report such infringements even when they are apparent.