Joshua Brustein’s article “Tomorrow’s Privacy Struggles, On Display Today” offers an interesting consequence from the growing sophistication of modern technology. When AT&T put some of their new technologies on display, the standout device was a smartphone app called “Driving Safely.” Through the use of sensors in an automobile, Driving Safely enables parents to monitor the status of their children as they drive. Depending on how well their child behaves, texting service can be limited or increase at the parents will.

One of the other notable pieces of technology was a location-based text messaging system. The basic premise behind the new texting system is to allow certain messages to be sent once the individual reaches their specific destination. Although AT&T’s newest ideas can offer great benefits in safety, Bustein notes that the technology “also serves as a surveillance tool.” As a result, the unprecedented invasion of privacy opens the possibility that many users will attempt to deceive the technology.

I have grown very indifferent of technology as this semester proceeds forward. While I do try to support as many new technologies as possible, I can’t help but get an “Orwellian” feeling from some of the latest electronics. I can see the appeal of a location-based text messaging system. For example, my parents always request that I message them when I arrive back to my dorm room from my home on Long Island. I can see how useful it may be to both of us if we were to subscribe to that technology. However, using the system casually seems way to intrusive for my tastes.

Brustein, Joshua. "Tomorrow’s Privacy Struggles, On Display Today." *The New York*  
     *Times*. N.p., 20 Apr. 2012. Web. 20 Apr. 2012.   
     <http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/>.