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The simple act of knowing where people are is changing as new technologies, carried on the body, are raising the real prospect of continuous tracking of whole populations. The most important of these technologies is the mobile phone, fast becoming ubiquitous in many countries, which is convenient for keeping in touch but at the same time signals the geographic location of the user. Mobile providers and other commercial vendors are rushing to turn this new stream of real-time spatial data into revenue through so called .location based services. Significantly, we posit that these technologies go beyond just operating as locational tags of the body because they also provide a means of personal identification which enables the real-time linkage of an individual's location in geographic space to their 'data shadow' in cyberspace. Further, the mobile phone is an excellent means of social surveillance, as the call data on the messages sent and received maps out individual's invisible web of social relationships.

Thus the mobile phone can be conceptualised as tagging and tracking technology that links together three vital aspects of socio-spatial identity - the person, their location and who they are connected with.

It is also increasingly likely that mobile phone usage data (both location and calls) will be kept for much longer periods than required simply for billing purposes, opening the way for unprecedented, large-scale 'data-mining' of socio-spatial behaviour by commercial and law-enforcement interests.

This we describe as a new form of surveillance, geosurveillance, whose implications are likely to be significant and manifold. In the next few years geosurveillance will spell the end of conventional notions of geographic privacy through obscurity for the majority of people, meaning people will no longer be able to be 'lost in the crowd'. This paper will discuss the socio-spatial implications of mobile phones as a mode of geosurveillance.

Key words: location tracking, geosurveillance, mobile phones, privacy