**My partner and I affirm:**

**Resolved: On balance, the benefits of the Internet of Things outweigh the harms of decreased personal privacy.**

**Meola from the Business Insider Newspaper in 2016 describes the internet of things (or IoT) as:** “A network of internet-connected objects able to collect and exchange data using embedded sensors”. <http://www.businessinsider.com/what-is-the-internet-of-things-definition-2016-8>

We observe the following:

1. Based on the wording of the resolution, the negative team must prove that privacy outweighs all of the impacts that we state.
2. Members of Less Developed Countries are largely non topical, because the majority of these people do not have Internet of Thing Devices. Thus, they cannot benefit from Internet of Things devices OR have their personal privacy impacted. <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=51924#.WBiCdPkrLIU>

With that in mind, let’s move into the following contentions:

**Contention 1:** Hurricane Satellite Systems.

Without the Internet of Things, people would not be widely aware of when they will be hit by a hurricane.

In preparation for the arrival of hurricane Matthew The United States Geological Survey cited “USGS hurricane response crews are busy installing two kinds of sensors in areas across four states where the agency expects the storm to hit hardest. The information the sensors collect will help with disaster recovery efforts and critical weather forecasts for the National Weather Service and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. **As is the case with most things these days, the storm will be tracked online.** [it] will be distributed live on the USGS [Flood Viewer](http://stn.wim.usgs.gov/fev/#MatthewOctober2016) to help federal and state officials gauge the extent and the storm's damage as it passes through each area.”  The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration expounds that they “operate several satellites and the U.S. Mission Control Center as part of the international program that has been responsible for the rescue of more than 30,000 people worldwide and nearly 7,000 in the United States since its inception in 1982.” <https://fcw.com/articles/2016/10/06/hurricane-matthew-iot.aspx>         <http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2012/20121009_sarsataniv.html>

**Contention 2: Elderly Monitoring**

**Subpoint A:** Life Alert

There are new technologies that involve the Internet of Things that can help save lives.

One example of a device that saves lives through the internet is Life Alert.

Life alert cites in 2016 that, “Life Alert ® [it] handles over two million calls a year, and on average saves at least one life from a potential catastrophic\* outcome every 10 minutes (over 52,200 in 2015).”

This statistic makes users very satisfied with Life Alert “Thanks to a greater sense of security, a 2004 ACNielsen study showed that 87% of Life Alert ® members stated that Life Alert’s protection is a main or important factor in their decision to keep on living alone at home.” <http://www.lifealert.com/about.aspx>

Life Alert has many positive benefits, saving the lives of the elderly, and allowing them to keep their independence. With Life Alert being such a simple concept that has already worked so well, the benefits of IoT tech are clear.

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**Subpoint B:** Independent and in-home living for the elderly.

A system of sensors that recognizes the daily activities that the elderly go through can be used to allow an older person to stay in the privacy of their own home for a longer amount of time.

**Abrahms from The AARP explains in 2014, that** “Great strides already have been made to improve aging, with the emergence of companies like **BrainAid, True Link and Lively**. Seniors who want to age in place need to be as independent as possible, and BrainAid produces PEAT, an Android app that provides cognitive aids for independent living. Seniors with Alzheimer’s, dementia, or memory loss receive help with tasks through cueing and scheduling assistance. Finances can be a hindrance to aging in place, so True Link provides financial safety for seniors; it features on and off switches for caregivers or children to help aging parents manage their money by blocking purchases, setting spending limits, sending alerts about suspect charges, and more. Concerns over loved ones aging in place also can hinder the process, and Lively helps caregivers and children keep tabs on elderly family members. Lively’s activity sensors monitor movements in the home and their Safety Watch gives medication reminders, keeps track of steps, and includes an emergency button.”<http://www.aarp.org/home-family/personal-technology/info-2014/is-this-the-end-of-the-nursing-home.html>

These three apps can allow seniors to stay in their homes and keep their independence. A survey by the AARP in 2012 concludes that “Approximately 90 percent of seniors intend to continue living in their current homes for the next five to 10 years.” People want to stay in their homes, and the Internet of Things makes that possible for the 41.4 million seniors that live in the United States today. <http://www.aarp.org/home-family/personal-technology/info-2014/is-this-the-end-of-the-nursing-home.html>

<http://www.upi.com/133-percent-in-US-are-seniors/75971362689252/>

**Thus, we affirm.**