

Funding the Future

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Robert Reich [has written this today](#):

Draw a circle around all the assets in America now devoted to Artificial Intelligence.

Draw a second circle around all the assets devoted to the U.S. military.

A third around all assets being devoted to helping the Trump regime collect and compile personal information on millions of Americans.

And a fourth circle around the parts of Silicon Valley dedicated to turning the United States away from a democracy into a libertarian dictatorship led by tech bros.

Where do the four circles intersect?

At a corporation called Palantir Technologies and a man named Peter Thiel.

In late 2023, NHS England awarded Palantir a £330 million contract to build a cloud-based Federated Data Platform (FDP). The platform is intended to integrate data from up to 240 NHS trusts and 42 Integrated Care Systems through AWS/Microsoft cloud services, although so far only about 120 trusts have signed up and apparently fewer than 45 hospital trusts were fully live by the end of 2024. Some health authorities, like Greater Manchester and Berkshire Healthcare, have expressed their disquiet about this system.

So do I.

Why are we paying a fortune to Palantir when, as Robert Reich says:

The danger inherent in Palantir's AI-powered super database on all Americans is connected to the vast wealth and power of those associated with the corporation, and their apparent disdain for democratic institutions.

We're allowing him - paying him - to do the same thing here, and the risks are the same.

This man opposes democracy, and our government is providing him with the funds to do so.

Why, oh why, oh why?

This recent article in the [i newspaper](#) might be of interest.