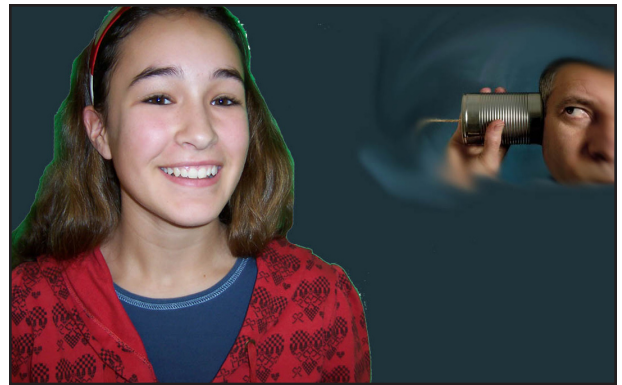


# Stupid Microphone!

By Lauren Sylvia



Bang! Bang! Bang! Open up! I stare at the clock. It reads 12:49 A.M. The light blinds my eyes as I flip the switch of the lamp. Bang! Bang! Bang! Here it goes again!

Hold on a second! I scream. Racing and tripping downstairs, I finally reach the front door. Hello? I open the door to see the government with my friend.

We heard you confess that your friend was stealing, they stated. We will have to ask a few questions. Stupid microphone! What would you choose if you had the choice between wearing a microphone or a tracking device connected to the government? I would definitely choose to wear the tracking device. See, if it was a tracking device I was hooked up to instead, I could be found if I was lost. Also, if I had to wear a microphone, I could slip and say something I wasn't supposed to say. Another positive thing about being hooked up to a tracking device is that they would know where I was, but not what I was doing. Why would you want to go through the torture of having a microphone attached to you at all times?

Being lost would be a terrible thing, so being marked with a tracking device would be a good thing in this case. If I were lost on the third floor of the Providence Place Mall, it would be pretty hard to find my parents on the first floor. So, seeing I'd be marked with a tracking device, they would be able to find me easily. We could even be in the same

store or room, but I could be unseen because a man with a very big coat is standing right in front of me. The tracking device, however, would let the government and whoever is looking for me know I am still there and not gone.

Any way, if I had a microphone attached to me, I could say something by accident that could be offensive and I could get in trouble. For instance I could say that someone in the governmental system had an ugly nose and get in trouble by that person. I could also let out a secret I was trying to keep from everyone.

Sure, it's true that with a tracking device the government would know where I am. However, they would not know exactly what I was doing. For example, they would know if I was in a bookstore, but they wouldn't know if I was jumping rope with wrestlers. Also, they wouldn't know that while I was in my kitchen, I was making pancakes while wearing a clown suit.

The choice between a microphone and a tracking device should be simple. Would you want to be talking to the government about crime and punishment? I don't think anyone would, especially because of a little thing you said that was caught on a microphone. The tracking device is the better of the two. It has a few good points, like never being lost, and getting to go about your own business without them knowing what you

are doing. A microphone only brings out the bad things said. Can a tracking device give you a meeting with the police? Last time I checked, it can't.

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## Hide and Seek

**I cannot be lost  
They know just where I could be,  
But they can't see me**

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**"They wouldn't  
know if was  
jumping rope with  
wrestlers."**

