

## BACKGROUND

Susan's mother Charlotte is in her 80s and lives alone. Charlotte loves her independence, but her family worries about her safety and security in a large house on her own. What happens if she falls and can't reach the phone, or if a stranger comes to the door?

Charlotte's family wants to install a 'home assistant system' that she can use to ask for the lights to be turned on / off or for the doors to lock automatically. She can also ask the system to call a member of the family in an emergency. One of the key features of the system is a doorbell with a camera. As you walk up to your door with hands full of shopping bags, the camera uses facial recognition to unlock the door for you. It can also recognise other people and sends an alert to your phone when regular visitors arrive.



## SCENARIO

Susan has been reading up about smart doorbells online. Some of the articles she's come across warn about the personal data these devices collect. It is clear that there can be risks when you introduce devices in your home. Susan wants her mother to have the features and services provided by the home assistant, but she has concerns.

She is particularly concerned about the doorbell camera. She has read that it is always recording and she cannot find out exactly what data is being collected, who it's being shared with and how it's being used. On the other hand, she likes that the gardaí can request the recorded video content from the doorbell company in the event that Charlotte's house is broken into.

## DISCUSS

**Would you install a system like this in your home? Would you be happy to connect it to your music and TV apps and your calendar?**

**Charlotte's neighbours are suspected of criminal activity. Do you think it's okay if the gardaí automatically retrieve the recordings from her door camera in their investigation?**

**Are there any circumstances that you'd be happy to be recognised by a doorbell camera as a regular visitor to someone's home?**