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Dangerous Digging into the Brain

The National Institutes of Health says its project to map the human brain will cost taxpayers $4.5 billion – if Congress funds it. The brain-mapping project is aimed at measuring chemical and electrical energy that flows between brain circuitry to try to answer questions about man’s emotions, language and imagination. Health officials want to delve into the brain to understand behaviors such as anger and depression.

One neurosurgeon says understanding the circuitry in patients with Parkinson’s disease has improved treatments. That may be, but imagine how government officials, or doctors using government-issued treatment protocols, could one day require you to treat your circuitry to prevent undesirable behaviors.