

# Privacy

COMP620

## Cultural Value

- Privacy is the ability of an individual or group to seclude themselves or information about themselves and thereby reveal themselves selectively *(Wikipedia)*
- An individual's expectation of privacy differs based on their cultural environment

## Information Privacy

- Privacy concerns exist wherever uniquely identifiable data relating to a person or persons are collected and stored, in digital form or otherwise. *(Wikipedia)*
- People may be willing to trade privacy for other advantages such as security or lower prices

## Universal Declaration of Human Rights

- Article 12 of the United Nation's Universal Declaration of Human Rights states
- *No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his **privacy**, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honor and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.*

## Constitutional Right

- The United States constitution does not explicitly define a right to privacy
- The Supreme Court has ruled that the constitution implicitly grants a right to privacy against government intrusion

## Types of Private Information

- There is a wide variety of information that a person may wish to keep private
  - Financial
  - Medical
  - Political
  - Internet
- People may feel the need to keep this private to avoid discrimination or embaessment

## Identity Theft

- Through various methods, thieves can obtain personal information that allows them to masquerade as someone else.
- Identity thieves usually use this information to obtain credit under someone else's name

## Privacy Laws

- U.S. Privacy Act of 1974 established rules for information gathered by the government
- U.S. Electronic Communications ACT of 1986 protects against wiretapping
  - Requires ISP and phone companies to provide data with a court order
- USA Patriot Act of 2001 relaxes requirements for wiretaps
  - Sets penalties for damaging computer systems

## Organizational Privacy

- Companies and other organizations may need to keep private information about their operation
- Employees may have little privacy from their employer while they work

## Trade Secrets

- A trade secret is something a company knows that gives them a competitive advantage
- Can often be protected with patents and trademarks. These require the company to reveal their secrets.
- The Uniform Trade Secrets Act is a model for state laws.
- Provides for civil penalties

## Technology and Privacy

This ad for telephone service in 1912 promoted dial phones instead of operator assisted connections as a privacy advantage

**Use the Automatic  
During the Convention**

Make the Automatic Telephone Station at the Coliseum your headquarters. A reception room, booths and uniformed pages at your service on the main floor of the Annex.

Let us facilitate your work—and let us demonstrate to you the wonderful efficiency of the Automatic telephone—

**The ONE Phone  
That Gives  
SECRET SERVICE**

Automatic Telephone Service is pulling the biggest popular vote in history! Local Chicago traffic has more than doubled, and long distance increased 67% since January 1, 1912.

Because of its very low cost, its instantaneous connections, its safety, its superior carrying capacity, its automatic and long distance facilities, it means take advantage of this special convention service.

**Local Calls 5c**  
*Long distance calls at remarkably low rates*

**Illinois Telephone & Telegraph Co.**

(Incorporated in Illinois) Western Union Co.  
162 W. Monroe St.  
Commercial Dept.  
33-111  
Information 892  
Long Distance Call (O) on the Dial

