

CS 55: Security and Privacy

Privacy

Last physical security item for CS55

SANS

^ ICS Security Summit

How Threats Are Slipping in the Back Door


- Deviant Ollam

Well, one more...

Open
Sesame
hacking
garages
in seconds



Agenda

- 
1. Defining privacy
 2. Where privacy breaks down
 3. If you've got nothing to hide, you've got nothing to worry about
 4. Privacy and the Internet

The right to privacy traces back to antiquity



- Code of Hammurabi provided protection against home intrusion
- Roman law did also
- England declared the home is one's castle and had anti-eavesdropping laws by 1769

- U.S. Constitution Fourth Amendment prevents “unreasonable searches and seizures”
- Government officials must obtain judicial approval before conducting a search through a warrant supported by probable cause



Even though privacy has been around a long time, it is difficult to define

Privacy is
vague and
evanescent
- Miller

Perhaps the most
striking thing about
privacy is that nobody
seems to have any very
clear idea what it is
- Jarvis

Suffers from an
embarrassment
of meanings
- Scheppele

It's like
pornography, I
know it when
I see it!
- My friend

Attempts to
define privacy
have generally not
met with any
success
- Bennett

It is easy to be too narrow or too broad when attempting to define privacy



“Intimate information, access, and decisions”¹

- What is intimate? Social Security Number? Religious affiliations?
- What context?
- Perhaps too narrow

Risk being too restrictive



“Right to be let alone”²

- What does let alone entail?
- May interactions would not be viewed as privacy violations
- If you shove and harm me, it is not a privacy problem
- Perhaps too broad

Risk being overinclusive and too vague to be useful

[1] Julie Inness

[2] Samuel Warren and Louis Brandeis

Solove, Daniel J. "I've got nothing to hide and other misunderstandings of privacy." *San Diego L. Rev.* 44 (2007): 745

Discussion

What is privacy?

Agenda

1. Defining privacy



2. Where privacy breaks down

3. If you've got nothing to hide, you've got nothing to worry about

4. Privacy and the Internet

Solove's Taxonomy of Privacy identifies four general categories of privacy problems

Privacy problems occur when an activity by a person, business, or government entity creates harm by disrupting valuable activities of others

These harms need not be physical or emotional; they can occur by chilling socially beneficial behavior or by leading to power imbalances that adversely affect social structure

Taxonomy's purpose is to shift away from vague label of privacy to prevent distinct harms and problems from being conflated or not recognized

**Some concepts may be argued are not privacy, but are problems nonetheless
Boundaries are often unclear!**

Solove's Taxonomy of Privacy identifies four general categories of privacy problems

Information Collection

Surveillance
Interrogation

Problems with how information is gathered

- **Surveillance: when information is collected without your knowledge or consent**
- **Interrogation: asking questions (you may feel compelled to answer)**

Social science experiment:

“Before we begin the study, can you please unlock your phone and hand it to me? I’ll just need to take your phone outside of the room for a moment to check for some things.”

What percentage of participants do you think complied?

What percent do you think comply with police request to search car?

Solove's Taxonomy of Privacy identifies four general categories of privacy problems

Information Collection

Surveillance
Interrogation

Problems with how information is stored and analyzed

Information Processing

Aggregation
Identification
Insecurity
Secondary use
Exclusion

- **Aggregation: combining pieces of information**
- **Identification: linking information to a person**
- **Insecurity: careless protection of information**
- **Secondary use: using information collected for other purposes or by other people without consent**
- **Exclusion: when people cannot access their information or have a say in the way it is used**

No fly list:

If your name appears on the list, you cannot board a commercial flight

- Unclear if your name is on the list
- Can use Traveler Redress Inquiry Program (TRIP) to remove yourself if your name is mistakenly on the list

Solove's Taxonomy of Privacy identifies four general categories of privacy problems

Information Collection

Surveillance
Interrogation

Information Processing

Aggregation
Identification
Insecurity
Secondary use
Exclusion

Information Dissemination

Breach of confidentiality
Disclosure/Exposure
Increased accessibility
Blackmail
Appropriation
Distortion

Problems with how information transferred to others

- **Breach of confidentiality: breaking promise to keep confidential**
- **Disclosure/Exposure: revelation of truthful information**
- **Increased accessibility: making access easy**
- **Blackmail: threat to disclose information**
- **Appropriation: user a person's identity**
- **Distortion: revealing false info**

Solove's Taxonomy of Privacy identifies four general categories of privacy problems

Information Collection

Surveillance
Interrogation

Information Processing

Aggregation
Identification
Insecurity
Secondary use
Exclusion

Information Dissemination

Breach of confidentiality
Disclosure/Exposure
Increased accessibility
Blackmail
Appropriation
Distortion

Invasion

Intrusion
Decisional interference

Interference with people's private affairs

- **Intrusion: invasive acts that disturb one's tranquility or solitude**
- **Decisional inference: government's incursion into subject's decision regarding private affairs**

Some argue we must give up privacy for security, especially in times of crisis

In national emergencies, rights must be cut back, but they'll be restored later

We must be willing to give up some privacy if it makes us more secure

I certainly respect privacy and privacy rights. But, on the other hand, the first function of government is to guarantee the security of all the people

All human beings have three lives: public, private, and secret

The American people must be willing to give up a degree of personal privacy in exchange for safety and security

Eventually all things are known. And few matter

Benjamin Franklin disagreed

In national emergencies, rights must be cut back,
but they'll be restored later

We must be willing to give up some privacy if it
makes us more secure

I certainly respect
rights. But, on the
function of govern-
security of all the

**They who can give up essential liberty
to obtain a little temporary safety
deserve neither liberty nor safety
- Benjamin Franklin**

three lives:
ret

The American
degree of personal privacy in exchange for safety
and security


Eventually all things are known. And few matter

Discussion

Why is privacy valuable? (or is it valuable at all?)

What harms can come from a loss of privacy?

Agenda

1. Defining privacy
2. Where privacy breaks down
-  3. If you've got nothing to hide, you've got nothing to worry about
4. Privacy and the Internet

Glen Greenwald on privacy



If a person has nothing to hide, there is no privacy problem, right?

Popular argument: If the government engages in surveillance, there is no threat to privacy unless the government uncovers unlawful activity. In which case a person has no legitimate justification to claim that their activities should remain private!

Are you sure you have nothing to hide? from anyone? at all times?

- Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn: “Everyone is guilty of something or has something to conceal [from someone]. All one has to do is look hard enough” **Can recast as: No law-abiding citizen should have anything to fear**
- If you have nothing to hide, then are you willing to me let photograph you naked? And I get full rights to the photo – I can show it to your neighbors (unlikely to happen, so weak argument)
- I have nothing to hide is saying it is OK for the government to infringe on the rights of millions of people, possibly ruining their lives. Basically equates to “I don’t care what happens, so long as it doesn’t happen to me” **Also needle-in-a-haystack argument**

Agenda

1. Defining privacy
2. Where privacy breaks down
3. If you've got nothing to hide, you've got nothing to worry about

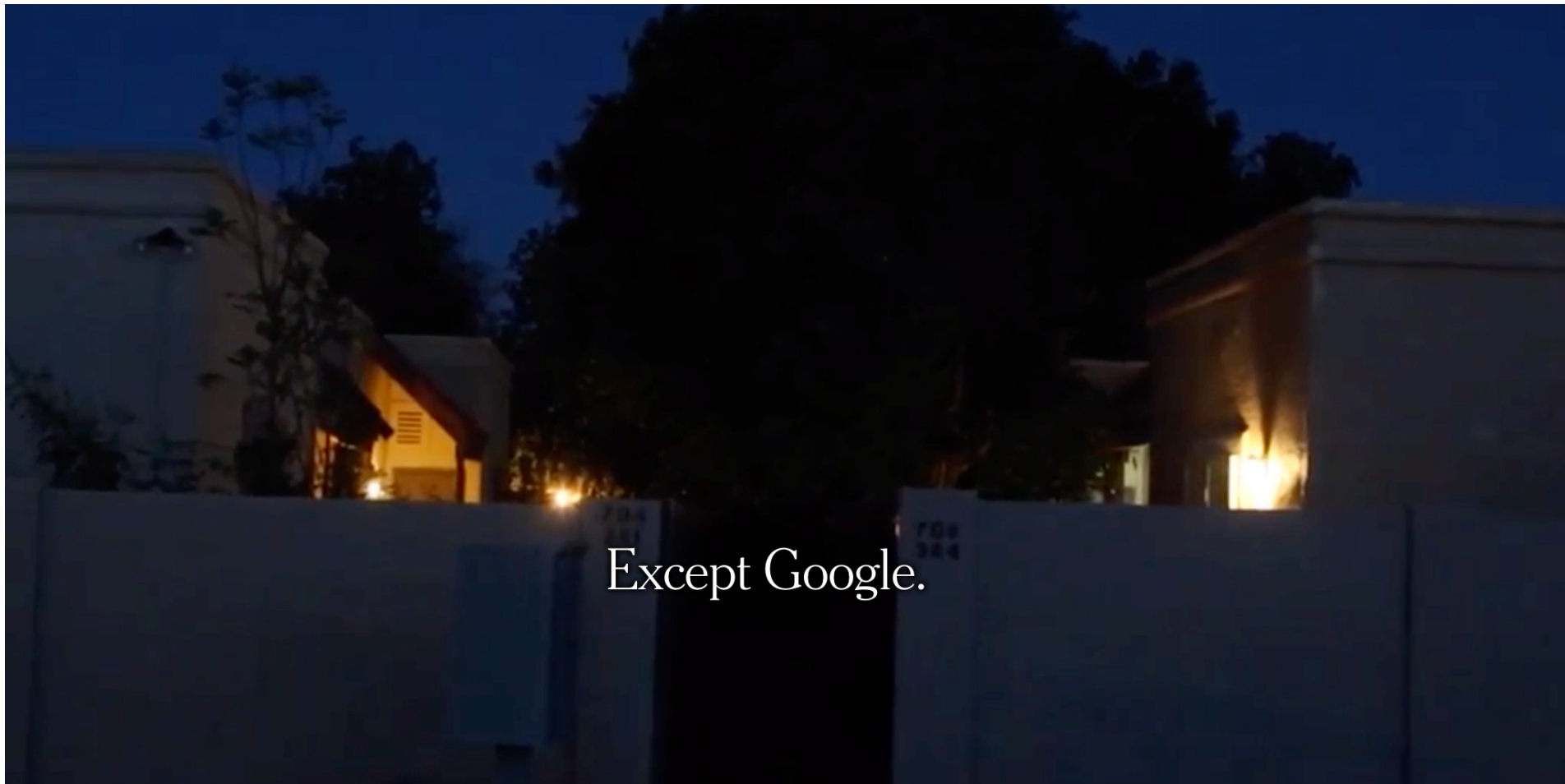
 4. Privacy and the Internet

Target determined a young woman was pregnant before her father knew



- Each time you shop online, you share information with retailers
- Retailers study patterns closely to determine what you like
- Purchases tied to your credit card/browsing habits
- Also buy information from other sources (demographic, other retailers)
- How Target knew:
 - Women on Target's baby registry buy lots of lotion around second trimester
 - In first 20 weeks also buy lots of vitamins, unscented soap, and cotton balls (could also have skin infection!)
 - Used 25 products to predict pregnancy, then sent coupons to likely women
 - Buy cocoa-butter lotion, large purse (could double as diaper bag), zinc and magnesium supplements => 87% chance due within four months
- Dad confronted Target suggesting they are encouraging her to get pregnant – found out truth later
- Target now spreads out pregnancy coupons with other ones to not appear creepy
- Did it work? Sales went from \$44B to \$67B after profiling
- Did Target break any laws?
- What about other companies like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram?

Location-based tracking via cell phones can possibly help solve murders. Good idea?



Except Google.

Metadata can sometimes be as telling as actual data

President Obama: “When it comes to telephone calls, nobody is listening to your telephone calls”
But they are collecting metadata on the calls!

How can metadata be a problem?

- They know you called the suicide prevention hotline from the Golden Gate Bridge, but the topic of the call was secret
- They know you spoke with an HIV testing service, then your doctor, then your insurance company, but they don't know what was discussed
- They know you called a gynecologist, spoke for a half hour, and then called Planned Parenthood, but nobody knows what you spoke about



If the British had metadata, could they have stopped the American revolution?

Start with a list of club members

This is an adjacency matrix from CS10!

Code

```
1      StAndrewsLodge LoyalNine NorthCaucus LongRoomClub TeaParty Bost
2  Adams.John        0          0          1          1          0
3  Adams.Samuel       0          0          1          1          0
4  Allen.Dr           0          0          1          0          0
5  Appleton.Nathaniel 0          0          1          0          0
6  Ash.Gilbert        1          0          0          0          0
7  Austin.Benjamin    0          0          0          0          0
8  Austin.Samuel      0          0          0          0          0
9  Avery.John         0          1          0          0          0
10 Baldwin.Cyrus      0          0          0          0          0
11 Ballard.John       0          0          1          0          0
12
13
```

Not much data here, just a 1 if a person was a member of a club
254 people, 7 clubs

Call this matrix **A**

If the British had metadata, could they have stopped the American revolution?

Calculate $A(A^T)$

```
Code
1
2 Adams.John Adams.Samuel Allen.Dr Appleton.Nathaniel
3 Adams.Samuel 2 - 1 2
4 Allen.Dr 1 1 - 1
5 Appleton.Nathaniel 1 2 1 -
6 Ash.Gilbert 0 0 0 0
7 Austin.Benjamin 0 1 0 0
8
```

Now have a 254x254 person matrix

Gives the number of clubs where two people are both members

If the British had metadata, could they have stopped the American revolution?

Also calculate $A^T(A)$

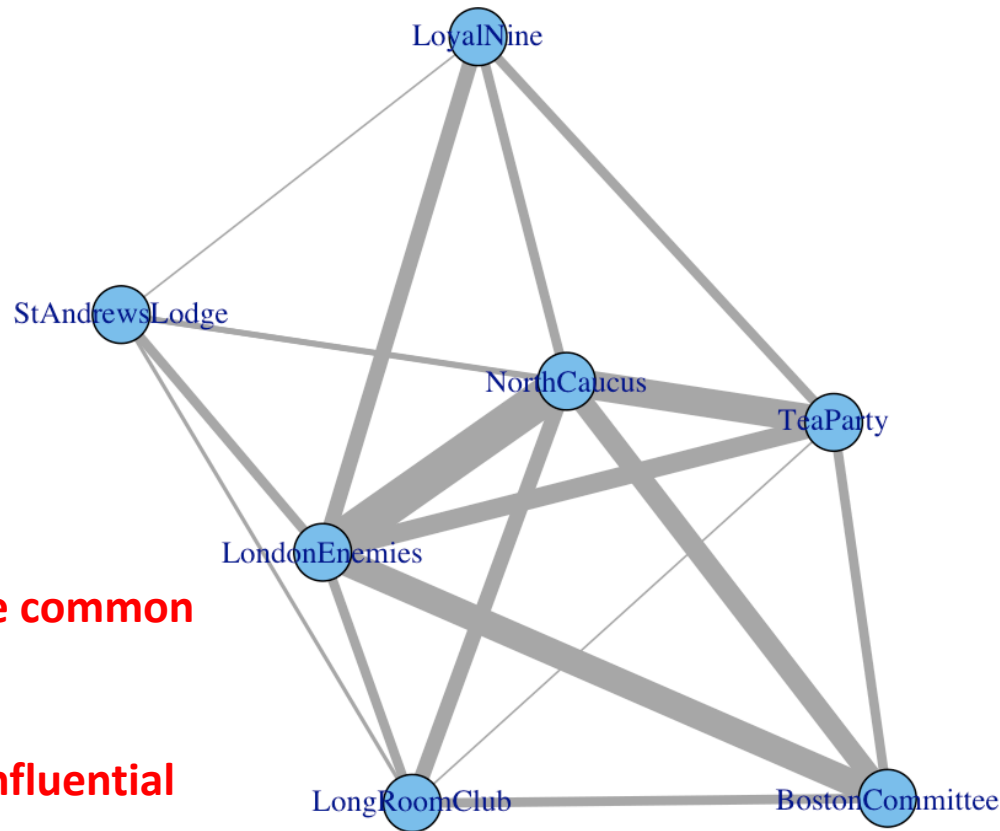
```
Code
1
2      StAndrewsLodge  LoyalNine  NorthCaucus  LongRoomClub  TeaParty  BostonComm:
3      LoyalNine      1          -          5          0          5          0
4      NorthCaucus    3          5          -          8          15         11
5      LongRoomClub   2          0          8          -          1          5
6      TeaParty       3          5          15         1          -          5
7      BostonCommittee 0          0          11         5          5          -
8      LondonEnemies  5          8          20         5          10         14
9
```

Now have 7x7 organization matrix

Gives the number of members organizations have in common

If the British had metadata, could they have stopped the American revolution?

Plot shared members between clubs



Some clubs have more common members than others

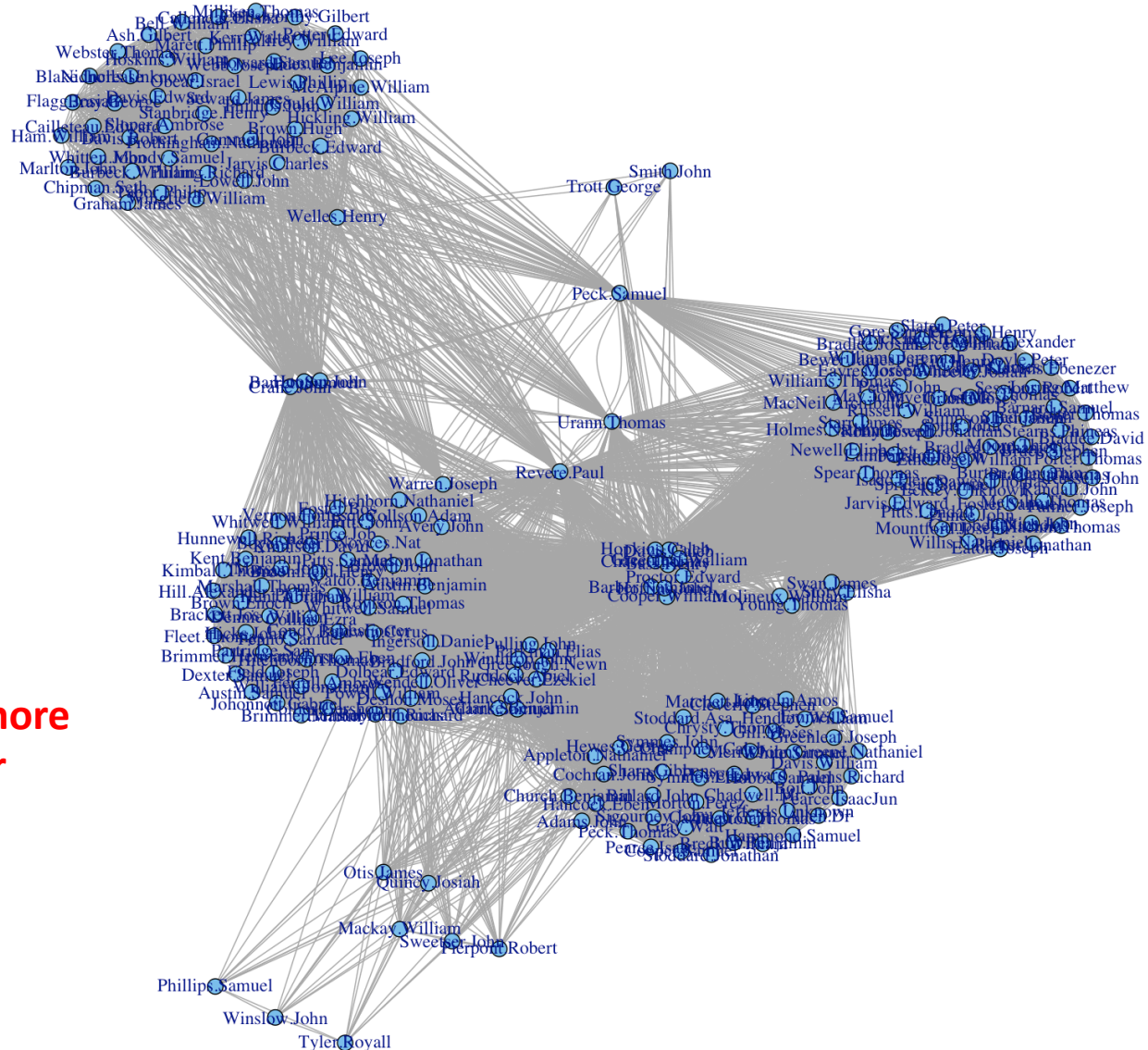
They might be more influential than others?

If the British had metadata, could they have stopped the American revolution?

Plot people based on the number of clubs in common

Some people have more connections to other people

They might be more influential



If the British had metadata, could they have stopped the American revolution?

Look at who is most connected



Maybe we should have a chat with Mr. Revere!

... and a few others

```
1 round(btw.person[ind][1:10],0)
2 Revere.Paul Urann.Thomas Warren.Joseph Peck.Samuel
3 3839 2185 1817 1150
4 Barber.Nathaniel Cooper.William Hoffins.John Bass.Henry
5 931 931 931 852
6 Chase.Thomas Davis.Caleb
7 852 852
8
```

