



A TAXONOMY OF PRIVACY


INFORMATION PROCESSING




Aggregation
Combining of various pieces of personal information
A credit bureau combining an individual's payment history from multiple creditors.




Insecurity
Carelessness in protecting information from leaks or improper access
An ecommerce website allowing others to view an individual's purchase history by changing the URL (e.g. enterprivacy.com?id=123)



Identification
linking of information to a particular individual
A researcher linking medical files to the Governor of a state using only date of birth, zip code and gender.



Secondary Use
Using personal information for a purpose other than the purpose for which it was collected
The U.S. Government using census data collected for the purpose of apportioning Congressional districts to identify and intern those of Japanese descent in WWII.




Exclusion
Failing to let an individual know about the information that others have about her and participate in its handling or use
A company using customer call history, without the customer's knowledge, to shift their order in a queue (i.e. "Your call will be answer in the order [NOT] received")

INFORMATION COLLECTION



Surveillance
Watching, listening to, or recording of an individual's activities
A website monitoring cursor movements of a visitor while visiting the website.



Interrogation
Questioning or probing for personal information
An interviewer asking an inappropriate question, such as marital status, during an employment interview.

Based on Dan Solove's
A Taxonomy of Privacy
https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=667622

Information Processing
Aggregation
Insecurity
Identification
Secondary Use
Exclusion

Information Collection
Surveillance
Interrogation



INVASION



Intrusion
Disturbing an individual's tranquility or solitude
An augmented reality game directing players onto private residential property.




Decisional Interference
Intruding into an individual's decision regarding her private affairs
A payment processor declining transactions for contraceptives.

Invasion
Intrusion
Decisional Interference




Information Dissemination
Breach of Confidentiality
Disclosure
Exposure
Increased Accessibility
Blackmail
Appropriation
Distortion


INFORMATION DISSEMINATION




Breach of Confidentiality
Breaking a promise to keep a person's information confidential
A doctor revealing patient information to friends on a social media website.



Disclosure
Revealing truthful information about a person that impacts her security or the way others judge her character
A government agency revealing an individual's address to a stalker, resulting in the individual's murder.



Exposure
Revealing an individual's nudity, grief, or bodily functions
A store forcing a customer to remove clothing revealing a colostomy bag.



Increased Accessibility
Amplifying the accessibility of personal information
A court making proceeding searchable on the Internet without redacting personal information.



Blackmail
Threatening to disclose personal information
An dating service for adulterers charging customers to delete their accounts.



Appropriation
Using an individual's identity to serve the aims and interests of another
A social media site using customer's images in advertising



Distortion
Disseminating false or misleading information about an individual
A creditor reporting a paid bill as unpaid to a credit bureau.