**The Deep Web**

The deep web is comprised of parts of the world wide web whose contents are not indexed by the standard web. The internet which each of us use on a day-to-day basis, or surface web, is available to all who have an internet connection. The information within the Deep web is hidden to the public for good reason. The deep web hides private information such as banking, social media information, information behind pay-walls, etc… We use it each day in almost every application we used that contains private information.

We would think that the majority of the Web would consist of the surface web, however, it is estimated that it is only a mere 4% while the other 96% is comprised of the deep web. There are multiple ways to access parts of the deep web. We access it almost every day. Each time we check our bank balance, sign on to Facebook, Instagram or snapchat, etc… All of the information on sites such as these require login credentials thus making them blockable to the greater public internet. There are obviously dangers when using the deep web as all this information that should be private is always susceptible to hacking when companies don’t provide proper security, but it is mostly safe to use.

The deep web is completely legal to use but should always be approached with the utmost amount of caution. Giving out information and downloading files should always be done with plenty of preliminary thought. There are a multitude of tools available out there to access the deep web. Dedicated search engines, archived websites, academic databases and look up tools all allow for the easy use of the different components of the deep web.