

Ethics Assignment #9: Privacy

Due: Thursday, 10.27.22, by 1:00 pm

Background

On Thursday, we'll have the second of our two lectures on privacy. We'll discuss more on data collection and how it's used, data protection principles, and more.

Learning Goals

By the end of the lecture, you will:

- know more about data collection and how it's used
- know the difference between NPI and PPI and why we should be concerned about PPI
- know how privacy is(n't) regulated in the United States
- know the elements of a good privacy disclosure agreement

Assignment

1. The case of Cambridge Analytica and Facebook can be summarized as follows:
Facebook's policy allowed Cambridge Analytica to obtain the personal information of 87 million Facebook users. Of these, only 270,000 had explicitly consented to download an app provided by Cambridge Analytica, and they only agreed to have their data used for academic research. Cambridge Analytica used the data to create profiles of the Facebook users which were sold to at least two politicians who used them to target ads for elections occurring in 2016.
Use Nissenbaum's privacy model to determine whether contextual integrity was maintained, i.e., the privacy of Facebook users wasn't violated. Explain your analysis using Nissenbaum's two norms of specific contexts.
2. Read the article at www.comparitech.com/blog/vpn-privacy/fair-information-practices/ which discusses the five principles of fair information practice. What are the five principles of fair information practice? Briefly summarize each one.
3. Read the highlighted text in the paper by Bashir et al. accompanying this HW prompt, i.e., **the Introduction and Discussion sections**. The paper states that online services attempt to address the need to obtain *informed consent* from their users through privacy policies and terms of service agreements. Why are these problematic?

Submit a pdf of your work via Canvas by 1:00 pm on Thursday, 10.27.22.
