I believe that is a major tradeoff between today’s database technology and privacy. Personally, data is important to collect if it is to accomplish something. Most companies these days collect our data in order to sell it to others. The time’s post by Orly Lobel acknowledges that “Privacy is important when it protects people against harmful surveillance and public disclosure of information” (Lobel, 2022). They further go on to say that the default assumption that data collection is harmful is simply misguided, which I agree with as well.

I believe that if most information sold or given away takes away names, address, phone numbers, and other easily identifiable information, it would be alright to collect for a purpose. With today’s internet access and privileges, any website that has our personal data, can and most likely will get hacked at one point. AT&T just recently had to provide a notice to 73,000,000 customers, including myself acknowledging they had a data leak after previously denying it. A post from cyberdaily shares that this leak goes as far back as August 2021 (Hollingworth, 2024).

The reality is, while we need to get used to our data being readily available online, we also need to be weary of what actually requires our data. Not everything should be a signup service, or at least give someone access to the website a few times before asking/requiring a sign up. An article by the Head of Design at OneSignal, Lee Munroe, states that “Shoving a registration form in someone’s face is a poor first-time user experience. Let them try the product, see the benefits, build some trust then think about asking them to register” (Munroe, 2013).

# Works Cited

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