

# **Mobile Devices have made us the most monitored individuals in history**

*SEM2220 - Assignment 4*

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# 1 Introduction

There has been a lot of news in the press in the last year about surveillance programs run by many countries security agencies, particularly focused on the collection of phone records by the NSA[1].

It comes as no surprise that this has brought about the question:

“Have mobile devices made us the most monitored individuals in history?”

To fully understand the depth of this question, one must consider the technical methods which are employed to monitor mobile devices and how these methods differ across different mobile platforms. In hand with this, one must investigate the methods for preventing unwanted monitoring on mobile devices and how effective these methods really are.

Finally there are many legal and professional issues which govern the collection of data from mobile devices; but there are also a host of ethical and social issues which legal and professional element cannot, necessarily, cover.

Of course monitoring of data, especially from mobile devices, doesn't have to be used for nefarious purposes. Applications commonly use data mining techniques to provide a better experience for their users and cloud services are so popular that imagining a world where all a users data is stored solely on a single device is almost impossible.

## **2 Technical Methods for Monitoring Mobile Devices**

### **3 Protection Against Unwanted Monitoring**

## **4 Implications of Mobile-based Monitoring**

## References

- [1] G. Greenwald, E. MacAskill, and S. Ackerman, “NSA collecting phone records of millions of Verizon customers daily,” *The Guardian*, 6 Jun. 2013, [Accessed Jan. 15, 2014]. [Online]. Available: <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/jun/06/nsa-phone-records-verizon-court-order>