Downsides to Safety

Like most things in life, there is commonly a downside. This course has been created to improve your privacy and security. The benefits are clear: you get protection from people, companies, and governments who unjustifiably want your information; not to mention the benefits from fraud, identity theft, and other criminal activities. These are amazing pros! But, there are problems that are difficult to avoid, and this lesson will prepare you for the most common ones.

Promotional Spot

The first and most obvious issue is your convenience will go down the drain. We talked about this in the very first section of the course; the more private and secure you get, the more inconvenient your life becomes. This is why I introduced all of you to the convenience line, an imaginary line to help you establish your limits.

Another downside is you may come across as suspicious to employers and other people if they aren't able to find information about you online. Social media's a valuable tool when you post positive things you do, since it's a public way for people to learn more about you, and it doesn't limit you to a piece of paper and a 10 minute interview. Obviously, this is terrible for your privacy, but be aware that some employers won't be thrilled when they can't conduct research under the table.

Tying to that last point, you're not going to (as easily) be able to share your life with people you know. We always want people to see or react to major things we accomplish, part of the reason we accomplish things is so that we can share our accomplishments. If you don't have social media, sharing your life events and accomplishments are much more difficult to do.

The last downside is the possibility of obsession and/or phobia. It's not uncommon for everything we've discussed in the course to shock some people. As big as the problems we discussed in the course are, be grateful for the positives they bring into our lives. Being able to navigate anywhere with Google Maps, instantly messaging people around the world, sharing moments with anybody instantly--is awesome! There is a hidden dark side to it, but don't forget to enjoy the positives.

I hope this has shed some light on the downsides to living a more private and secure life, but I also hope it doesn't discourage you from implementing a good

amount of everything we've talked about. The benefits you'll get greatly outweigh the downsides, and there's always a middle ground; where do you draw your line?

Queue Outro Promos

Make sure to stick around for the next lesson, which is the last informational lesson of the course, and it's the most important. It talks about *activism*, *advocacy, and things you can do to make an impact around you*, hopefully convincing others to join the privacy and security movement. I'll see you then, thanks for watching.