

Alexa Spying

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Background

- Amazon Alexa (AVS)
 - Smart Speakers & Home Assistance
 - What/How it does?
 - Features - Home Automation, Messaging/Calling, Updates, Ordering, etc
 - Popularity
 - Real Life Issue
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- Three smart speakers are shown in the top right corner. From left to right, there is a silver one, a black one, and a blue one. They are all cylindrical in shape with a mesh grille on the front.



Main Issues:

- Privacy Breach
- Listening all the time
- Stealing Your Identity
- Hacking Data
- Supervision of User Data
- How Secure is Alexa?



Interesting facts about this case

- Dilemma of Advanced Technology
- Losing/Trade of Privacy
- Misinterpretation of Commands
- Collecting User Data



Ethical Significance

- Leaking Personal Information
- Hiding information usage from user



Impact – Personal/Public

- PERSONAL
 - Easy Life
 - Compromising Privacy
 - Makes people more lazy
- PUBLIC
 - Reducing Criminal Activities
 - Causing Insecurity



Consequences

- Wrong interpretations leads to perform incorrect actions
- Hacking Made Easy
- Amazon can be sued for breaking laws
- Decrease in Alexa Sales
- Deprecated Alexa
- Conspiracy

Preventive Measures/Conclusion

- Supervision of Government
- Changing the security setting of Alexa
- Delete one's Amazon Recordings
 - Manually or Automatically
- Still Concerned?
 - Avoid Keeping Alexa in one's private space



Reference

1. Sorcher, S. (2019, May 6). Analysis | The Technology 202: Alexa, are you spying on me? Here's why smart speakers raise serious privacy concerns. *The Washington Post*. Retrieved from <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/paloma/the-technology-202/2019/05/06/the-technology-202-alexa-are-you-spying-on-me-here-s-why-smart-speakers-raise-serious-privacy-concerns/5ccf46a9a7a0a46cfe152c3c/>
2. Kalyan Kumar. (2019, April 11). Is Amazon Spying On Users Through Alexa? Thousands Of Employees Listen To Conversations. Retrieved from International Business Times website: <https://www.ibtimes.com/amazon-spying-users-through-alexa-thousands-employees-listen-conversations-2784772>