Week 6: Surveillance of immigrants

Real time guest lecture: July 11, 8:30 am Pacific/11:30 am Eastern

Overview

Immigration and customs enforcement (ICE) arrests and deportations have increased at least 25% since Donald Trump took office. This is a staggering figure given that harsh immigration enforcement was already happening under President Obama, who was known by immigrants rights' activists as "The Deporter in Chief". The recent "zero tolerance" immigration policy of the Department of Justice, aggressive immigration enforcement has led to families torn apart at the border and increased terror for immigrants throughout the rest of the country.

This week, Dia Kayyali of WITNESS will join us to talk about how ICE and border agents use surveillance technology to target people for arrest and deportation. We'll also review case studies showing how immigration activists in particular have been targeted, and we'll talk about mitigation strategies that can help marginalized communities such as these organize more safely.

(FYI, next week on Tuesday July 17th we'll have an additional guest speaker covering more about immigrants and privacy)

Learning objectives
- Understand ICE surveillance tactics
- Understand how our communities are targeted
- Learn about some mitigation strategies
- Brainstorm about programs and outreach for this threat model
- Learn how to use Signal for encrypted texting and calling

Readings
(lots for this week -- read/skim what you can)
- Trump dramatically expands ICE's power:
  https://edition.cnn.com/2017/01/28/politics/donald-trump-immigration-detention-deportations-enforcement/index.html
- Read the ICE agents' guide to NSA surveillance:
  https://www.thedailybeast.com/exclusive-read-the-ice-agents-guide-to-nsa-surveillance
- ICE wants to be an intelligence agency under Trump:
  https://www.thedailybeast.com/ice-wants-to-be-an-intelligence-agency-under-trump
- ICE is using Stingray technology to track immigrants:
  https://gizmodo.com/ice-agents-are-using-stingray-surveillance-tech-to-capt-1795377902
- ICE just launched a $2.4 million contract with a secretive surveillance company:
  http://www.newsweek.com/ice-just-signed-24m-contract-secretive-data-surveillance-company-can-track-you-962493
- Some cases of ICE targeting immigration activists for deportation:

- ○ https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2018/01/29/federal-judge-blasts-ice-for-cruel-tactics-frees-immigrant-rights-activist-ravi-ragbir/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.f7e68172b353
  - ○ https://www.thestranger.com/slog/2018/02/26/25855914/ice-identified-immigrant-activist-for-deportation-after-she-spoke-with-the-press-records-show
  - ○ https://www.democracynow.org/2018/4/27/web_bonus_alejandra_pablos_on_being
- National Lawyers' Guild Know Your Rights guides (multiple languages): https://www.nlg.org/know-your-rights/
- Using Facebook in an era of mass deportation: https://lab.witness.org/using-facebook-in-an-era-of-mass-deportation/

Guest lecturer
Dia Kayyali, Program Manager, Tech & Advocacy at WITNESS
(https://witness.org/portfolio_page/dia-kayyali/)

Discussion
- How is increased ICE enforcement affecting your community?
- Discuss targeting of activists and low-level criminal offenses for deportation
- Talk about your experience using Signal and ways to incorporate it into library instruction

Assignment
- Signal is an encrypted texting, calling, and videochat app that is resistant to Stingray technology (among other things!). It's also the only encrypted texting tool that protects metadata (more on that in the chat). Download Signal and complete the following activities:
  - ○ Invite a contact to Signal
  - ○ Add a new contact
  - ○ Start a new group
  - ○ Turn on disappearing messages
  - ○ Delete a message thread
- Write down your observations from the Signal activity and make instructional slides for using Signal; or
- Write a one-page curriculum draft for a lower-tech, rights-focused privacy training (use some of what you learned in week 3 basic privacy tools)