

A.Mellon

Week 5 - Threat Modeling

Threat Model for a Library with an Immigrant Population

1. What do you want to protect?
All information related to patrons such as names, addresses, emails, reading habits, computer usage, and any time stamped items that might show a pattern of their visits to the library such as security camera footage, circulation stats, etc.
2. Who do you want to protect it from?
Everyone, but especially law enforcement (including ICE and DHS). Other adversaries might include vendors, other patrons, former staff, and government agencies.
3. How likely is it you will need to protect this information?
It's increasingly likely given the current administration and political climate in our country. Every Library says it's not a matter of IF, but WHEN.
4. How bad are the consequences if you fail?
Consequences can vary from being chilling to the patron who is seeking information to the patron being incarcerated or deported.
5. How much are you willing to do to protect it?
As much as possible.
 - Instruct patrons on safe browsing techniques. Have reminders at computers to completely log out of all accounts and web browsers.
 - Perform a privacy audit to see where gaps might be in the flow of information in your library that might unintentionally make patrons vulnerable.
 - Have library policy in place that determines who access to information about patrons. Do all staff need access to patron records? Are there state laws that provide for protections of patron information? How long is security camera footage maintained?
 - Have protocols in place for if/when law enforcement comes knocking. Consult with an attorney to make sure all of these procedures are legally sound and make sure ALL staff are very clear on those procedures.
 - Be a source of information for immigrant patrons. Have materials that educate on them their rights, help them locate any forms they might need, etc.

Resources for libraries:

Plan, Prepare, Act <http://everylibrary.org/one-america-advice-libraries-immigration-enforcement-actions/>

National Immigration Project Tool Kit <https://nationalimmigrationproject.org/tools.html>

Informed Immigration Resource Library <https://www.informedimmigrant.com/resources/#>

ALA Law Enforcement Inquiries Issues at a Glance

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/privacy/lawenforcement>

