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CSCI 235 Procedural Programming

February 19, 2018

### Privacy

Technology, advancing faster than it has ever before, is making life easier for each generation that passes. But in today's current state of technological growth, companies are gathering our information from search history's, shopping sites, and even online chats. As Christians, how should we feel about this and are these companies doing anything wrong? I believe as Christians we should leave, little to hide and the monitoring of our data shouldn't be a main concern. As the Bible mentions, "Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you." (Hebrews 13:17 NIV). God watches over us in every aspect of our life, and as these companies are monitoring our data, it should reflect God's work and shaping of our life and habits. This quote mentions not worrying about this spying because, "... this would be unprofitable for you," and the worrying would give them more control and power.

Google Hangouts is growing in popularity and this has caused Google to implement new features to better acquaint their users. A newly instituted feature is "Artificial Intelligence" also known as AI being incorporated to read and monitor your messages and replies to give "helpful suggestions". This has many people wondering if there is any privacy and if they should stop using Google Hangouts because of this monitoring. As stated earlier I don't see a problem with said technology trying to help and give suggestions but there should be limitations. For example,

maybe give users a choice whether to have this AI give its input or disable it altogether. Or a checklist that allows users to select specific actions that can be used, say disable location. This might allow people who wish for more privacy to feel safe and welcomed to the hangout while also giving full access to those who want it.

Facebook has developed over the years to be used by millions, almost becoming a generational symbol by now. People give their approval or satisfaction by liking comments and pictures, etc., but there is more to this. Anyone can obtain likes by producing content that is well received or by purchasing them through Facebook themselves or by purchasing bot accounts, better known as fake accounts. These likes will allow whatever the subject matter is to be distributed and widespread throughout Facebook and work as an ad basically. Rather than run ads to promote businesses or people, these likes tempt others to follow due to there being a “status” or fame attributed to these accumulated likes. The boosting of likes in any way is ridiculous and there are plenty of ways to fix this. First get rid of the bot accounts, this may be difficult, but Facebook has the money and brains to handle this. Then instead of promoting people based on likes, just promote by people who you’re following or are following you with multiple categories. As Christians we should try and spread the faith, and bot accounts and boosted likes are only lowering us deeper in the ocean that is Facebook, not skimming the surface unless someone is looking for us specifically.

Technology is advancing, not always for the better but mostly beneficially to society. These worries and problems with Facebook and Google Hangouts won’t go away, for everyone that quits, another person will join and there will always be a following. What we must do as Christians is use it to spread the faith, the word of Christ and his message of salvation. This

maybe difficult with Facebook bots promoting other things but if it's God's will to promote his word, then who am I to doubt his miracles and miraculous powers.

#### Work Cited

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