**Value Sensitive Design Assignment #1**

**Due Date**: submit w/ Final Project

Write the privacy policy for the website you are designing. Your aim is to be sensitive to all the values that are at play, and make appropriate tradeoffs between them. There are two parts to this assignment:

* Write the privacy policy itself (length is somewhat flexible, but it must be readable by an average person in 5 minutes or less).
* Complete a worksheet (see attached) explaining why you wrote your privacy policy as you did.

Be realistic about what data you’re going to collect, and what you’re going to do with it. At a minimum, you’re presumably going to want some data to improve your website via analytics, so don’t just go with a utopian ‘we won’t collect any of your data’ approach. Your interests matter too (e.g. producing a good website that will make money), and collecting data can be an important part of this. What we’re looking for is a reasonable and intelligible privacy policy that, through being sensitive to all the values that are at stake, strikes an appropriate balance between collecting useful data, and respecting user privacy.

**Privacy Policy Justification Worksheet**

1. Briefly describe the website you are building (its purpose/functionality/etc.)

We are building a fun trivia website, where you can view, vote on, and (depending on your user type) create various trivia questions on the site.

There are a few different types of users: the general user, a member of the site, and a moderator. If a general user stumbles onto the site, they can look at the questions we have and search for some, but they cannot vote on any. If a user logs in, they can then vote on the questions and favorite/bookmark ones that they like. A moderator can create their own questions and delete them, and will be able to pull more questions from our external API into our site.

1. Identify the stakeholders (direct and indirect) whose interests are relevant to your website.

Our users 🡪 Interest: keep their information private.

Other websites 🡪 People’s passwords and usernames (personal data) are generally consistent across different websites, so if we have a data breach, hackers could potentially use this library to hack/access other sites.

Us 🡪 Keep our users happy and their information as safe as possible. We strongly encourage our users to not use common or previous usernames and passwords so that they can keep their information safe, even outside of our site.

1. What data will you have access to, and what might this data reveal about its subjects?

We have very minimal access to our users’ information. The only personally identifiable information that we have access to is our users’ usernames and passwords that they use to sign up for an account on our website.

This data could reveal patterns in our users’ log-in information elsewhere on the internet, such as other websites or apps. This could be especially harmful for banking sites and other financial services.

We also have access to trivial information relating to our specific app, such as how many questions our users get right or wrong and what questions they favorite/bookmark.

1. What values are relevant to your website and its privacy policy? (Note that the relevant values will depend in part on the kind of website you are building).

We value the user’s interest by collecting a very minimal amount of information about them and by suggesting that they use very unique usernames and passwords when they create an account on our site.

The main goal of our website is to encourage fun and provide entertainment for our users, which is why we don’t store much data. We also don’t sell the users’ data to anyone because there is no monetary value or gains that people can take advantage of. As such, we value the privacy of our users in the form of dignity and integrity.

1. What counts as “success” for the website you are building?

Having many active users on our website. This would create a more engaging experience for everybody – the more users there are, the more questions there can potentially be.

In the future, we would like to store the users’ emails or phone numbers for a way to contact them. With this contact information, we could send monthly news or texts to get people back on our site. One example would be “Do you know the answer to this?”

1. Describe how you took the relevant values into account in writing your privacy policy (e.g. what decisions and tradeoffs were made, and why).

We deeply value the users’ privacy, so we chose to store very little information that would be potentially sensitive. There weren’t many tradeoffs in this decision because we feel that storing user information is not a very necessary feature of our site. We simply want people to engage with it and the questions we have on the website. The only potential tradeoff we made was the fact that we do not store the user data in the most secure way possible (though this is primarily due to time constraints for this project).

**PRIVACY POLICY**

OUR VALUES

Jrivia believes in a fun, enjoyable experience without many strings attached. We do not sell your information to anyone else, and it is mainly used to make the site engaging. The only thing we want to do is make sure you are entertained on the site, which is why we do not collect much information about you or your activity.

The only sensitive information we collect is your username and password so that you can log in to interact with the trivia questions. Additionally, to make your experience better, we do not host any predatory advertisements or sponsorships on the site.

SIGN UP

When you create an account on Jrivia, you provide us with some information that can be potentially sensitive. Such information includes your username and password, which are stored on our online database. While we make sure to encrypt your password for more security, due to the nature of how we store your data on our remote API, we urge our users to make sure to create unique usernames with safe and secure passwords.

INFORMATION COLLECTED

Here at Jrivia, we store your username, password, and trivia statistics in our online database. As for the information other than your personal log-in details, we keep a tally as to how many trivia questions you have gotten right or wrong if you choose to vote on any, and store the questions that you bookmark/favorite. This trivia-related information is available to other users of the site if they navigate to your profile.

HOW WE USE THE INFORMATION

The information that we collect is necessary for the user’s experience on the site. We only use it to allow people to log in, interact with the trivia questions, and view user profiles. Besides your log-in information, we publicly display almost all of the information we store about our users (trivia statics, liked questions, etc.) on our site.

WHAT INFORMATION WE SHARE

Currently, Jrivia does not send any of the information we store anywhere outside of the site, and it is merely there for the viewing pleasure of our users. If someone does gain access to our database, that is not because we sold the information. Jrivia is an entertainment site, meant for fun and enjoyment, so we do not sell your information to anyone and we do not host any advertisements.