

I've Got Nothing to Hide: Exploring Privacy in Art, Fiction, and Film

Joshua Datko

Department of Computer Science
Drexel University
Philadelphia, PA 19103
jbd65@drexel.edu

September 28, 2013

Table of Contents

- 1 Article Summary
- 2 Privacy in Art
- 3 Privacy in Fiction
- 4 Privacy in Film
- 5 Discussion Ideas

I've Got Nothing to Hide

A brief summary of *"I've Got Nothing to Hide" and Other Misunderstandings of Privacy* by Daniel J. Solove.

- If you have nothing to hide, what do you have to fear?
- More like, "I don't care what happens, so long as it doesn't happen to me."
- Strongest argument has a utilitarian perspective: national security is more important than my privacy.

Privacy is hard to define

The taxonomy of privacy:

- Information Collection
 - ▶ Surveillance
 - ▶ Interrogation
- Information Processing
 - ▶ Aggregation
 - ▶ Identification
 - ▶ Insecurity
 - ▶ Secondary Use
 - ▶ Exclusion
- Information Dissemination
 - ▶ Breach of Confidentiality
 - ▶ Disclosure
 - ▶ Exposure
 - ▶ Increased Accessibility
 - ▶ Blackmail
 - ▶ Appropriation
 - ▶ Distortion
- Invasion
 - ▶ Intrusion
 - ▶ Decisional Interference

A Tale of Two Dystopias

- Orwellian
 - ▶ Surveillance state.
 - ▶ Social control through overt presence.
- Kafkaesque
 - ▶ Information processing affects the power relationship.
 - ▶ Frustrate individuals and creates helplessness and powerlessness.

The problem with “I have nothing to hide”

The argument is built on the “premise that privacy is about hiding a wrong” (Bruce Schneier).

- No Fourth Amendment protection to data stored by third parties.
- Causes a chilling effect on Free Speech and Free Association.
- Secondary Use: Unintended use of the collected data.

Final Point

“The issue, however, often is not whether the NSA or other government agencies should be allowed to engage in particular forms of information gathering; rather, it is what kinds of oversight and accountability we want in place when the government engages in searches and seizures.”

Table of Contents

- 1 Article Summary
- 2 Privacy in Art
- 3 Privacy in Fiction
- 4 Privacy in Film
- 5 Discussion Ideas

The Neighbors (2013) by Arne Svenson

- Photographer takes pictures of his neighbors, without their knowledge, in Tribeca (NYC).
- Two neighbors sued. Their children were in the photos.
- Court ruled the artist was protected under the First Amendment.

I have nothing to hide.

Unless you take a picture of me and call it art!

Neighbors



Figure: Photos Copyright Arne Svenson

Face to Facebook

Stealing 1 million Facebook profiles, filtering them with face-recognition software, and then, posting them on a custom-made dating website, sorted by their facial expressions characteristics.

- All “singles” were involuntarily added to a fake an experimental dating site.
- Let’s watch the introduction video.
- Great example of *secondary usage*



Figure: Facebook Faces by Joern Roeder and Jonathan Pirnay, University of Visual Arts and Design Kassel, Germany, 2011

Table of Contents

1 Article Summary

2 Privacy in Art

3 Privacy in Fiction

4 Privacy in Film

5 Discussion Ideas

The Trial by Franz Kafka

- Referred to by the author as an example that “depicts a bureaucracy with inscrutable purposes that uses people’s information to make important decisions about them, yet denies the people the ability to participate in how their information is used.”
- Reading from beginning of *The Trial*.
- Reading from *Harper’s*, September 2013, *Life as a Terrorist: Uncovering my FBI File* by William T. Vollmann

I have nothing to hide.

But when the government hides information about you, it enables a sense of frustration and powerlessness.

Little Brother and *Homeland* by Cory Doctorow

- Cory Doctorow: EFF, Boing Boing, several books.
- The day after tomorrow setting: terrorist attack San Francisco.
- *Little Brother* teaches you how to have a GPG Signing party and how to run anonymizing software (like Tails and Tor).
- Afterwards by Bruce Schneier, Andrew Huang, Jacob Appelbaum, Aaron Schwartz.
- *Little Brother* has an excellent Bibliography for other readings on security.

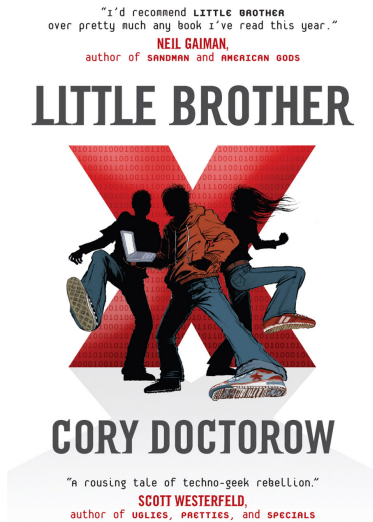
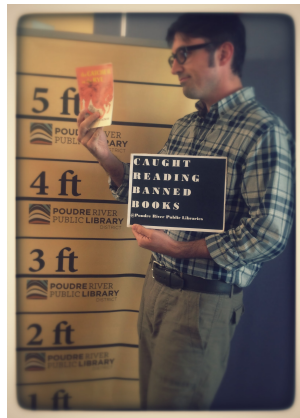


Table of Contents

- 1 Article Summary
- 2 Privacy in Art
- 3 Privacy in Fiction
- 4 Privacy in Film**
- 5 Discussion Ideas

V for Vendetta (2005)

- Orwellian: state surveillance, mandatory curfews, state media.
- Popularized Guy Fawkes Masks.
- Banned books, art, and subversive material.



Caught with a banned book
I would not do well in a *V for Vendetta* world.

Das Leben der Anderen (2006)

- 1950 - 1990 during the DDR, a *real* surveillance state existed.
- Nearly every item on the taxonomy of privacy is violated.
- Stasi infiltration ran deep: industry, schools, and spouses.



Why invent dystopias?

History serves as a better example.

Table of Contents

- 1 Article Summary
- 2 Privacy in Art
- 3 Privacy in Fiction
- 4 Privacy in Film
- 5 Discussion Ideas

Discussion Ideas

- Would you keep your blinds open in NYC if you lived there? What if your neighbor was taking pictures?
- When, if ever, would you consider filing a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for your file?
- The TSA back-scatter machines have raised privacy concerns because of the revealing images. Would you / did you go through them? Did you feel any pressure to choose the scanner over the pat-down?

Where do fall in the matrix?

OPINIONS ON INTERNET PRIVACY

THE PHILOSOPHER:

"PRIVACY" IS AN IMPRACTICAL WAY TO THINK ABOUT DATA IN A DIGITAL WORLD SO UNLIKE THE ONE IN WHICH OUR SOCI-

SO BORED.



THE CRYPTO NUT:

MY DATA IS SAFE BEHIND SIX LAYERS OF SYMMETRIC AND PUBLIC-KEY ALGORITHMS.

WHAT DATA IS IT?

MOSTLY ME EMAILING WITH PEOPLE ABOUT CRYPTOGRAPHY.



THE CONSPIRACIST:

THESE LEAKS ARE JUST THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG. THERE'S A WAREHOUSE IN UTAH WHERE THE NSA HAS THE *ENTIRE* ICEBERG.

I DON'T KNOW HOW THEY GOT IT THERE.



THE NIHILIST:

JOKE'S ON THEM, GATHERING ALL THIS DATA ON ME AS IF ANYTHING I DO MEANS ANYTHING.



THE EXHIBITIONIST:

MMMM? I SURE HOPE THE NSA ISN'T WATCHING ME. BITE INTO THESE JUICY STRAWBERRIES!!

OOPS I DRIPPED SOME ON MY SHIRT! BETTER TAKE IT OFF.

GOOGLE, ARE YOU THERE?

GOOGLE, THIS LOTION FEELS SOOOOO GOOD.



THE SAGE:

I DON'T KNOW OR CARE WHAT DATA *ANYONE* HAS ABOUT ME.

DATA IS IMAGINARY. THIS BURRITO IS REAL.

