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STS 4600

Research Outline

I. Introduction

A. Frame the problem that your research investigates.

* Introduce IoT with examples
* Huge number of devices producing large amounts of data and a lot of the data collected is possibly extremely personal
* Define privacy
* Collection and retention of this data presents privacy risks from governments, corporations, and cyber-attacks. Provide examples
* Question: How should the data produced by IoT systems affect personal privacy?

B. Your main claim about that problem (or your best guess if you’re not sure of your main claim yet)

* The widespread use of IoT devices will make corporations effectively own (ownership as in legal control over) a large amount of their users’ personal information, which the corporations could easily misuse or put their users’ personal privacy at risk without significant legal ramifications.

C. How you will support that claim (i.e., an outline of your paper’s subtopics)

* Once corporations collect information from IoT devices about their users, they will pretty much exclusively control it.
* The data collected by IoT devices though maybe not apparently sensitive can be used to infer private information and thus give corporations significant control over their users’ privacy.
* Technology companies that store data collected from their users have historically misused the data collected about their users and IoT device makers will likely behave similarly.

II. Supporting Argument 1

A. Define this section’s claim. How does it relate to your overall claim?

* Once corporations collect information from IoT devices about their users, they will control it with few restrictions.

B. Describe the reasons and evidence that support this claim. This section should be multiple paragraphs long, so for each planned paragraph:

a Write a complete sentence as the topic sentence (claim) of the paragraph.

* As of now search engines collect information about their users and pretty much exclusively control that information

b. Briefly describe the evidence you will use to support this claim, with citation(s).

* Once search engines collect information about you they can do practically anything they want without significant legal ramifications. (Grimmelmann 2007)
* Aol released search results identified by user ID and people were identifiable from the results. (Barbaro & Zeller, 2006) There were no legal ramifications for AOL.

III. Supporting Argument 2

1. Define this section’s claim. How does it relate to your overall claim?
   * The data collected by IoT devices though maybe not apparently sensitive can be used to infer private information and thus give corporations significant control over their users’ privacy.

B. Describe the reasons and evidence that support this claim. This section should be multiple paragraphs long, so for each planned paragraph:

a. Write a complete sentence as the topic sentence (claim) of the paragraph.

* Companies can use Data Mining to infer additional information from large data sets they have about their customers
* Corporations are using data mining on the information that they have to infer private information
* IoT devices present a huge amount of new information that can be analyzed using data mining and thus give companies more control of their customers privacy.

b. Briefly describe the evidence you will use to support this claim, with citation(s).

* When a hurricane is approaching, Walmart found that sales of beer increase (Keating, 2008).
* Through customer purchase history, Target sent pregnant women with baby clothes adds with a lot of accuracy. (Corrigan, Craciun, & Powell, 2014)
* Netflix gave a prize to people who could predict ratings on other movies using ratings users gave on other movies. (Bennett & Lanning, 2007) (Maybe remove)
* Netflix is using data mining to find shows that will be popular. (RESEARCH) (Maybe remove)
* sExamples of potential uses of IoT and how data mining could be used.

IV. Supporting Argument 3

1. Define this section’s claim. How does it relate to your overall claim?
   * Technology companies that store data collected from their users have historically misused and insufficiently protected the data collected about their users and IoT device makers will likely behave similarly.

B. Describe the reasons and evidence that support this claim. This section should be multiple paragraphs long, so for each planned paragraph:

a. Write a complete sentence as the topic sentence (claim) of the paragraph.

* Tech companies have released personal data without their users’ knowledge or consent to different parties.
* IoT companies have insecurely stored and communicated customers’ data leaving it at risk

b. Briefly describe the evidence you will use to support this claim, with citation(s).

* Aol released search results identified by user ID and people were identifiable from the results. (Barbaro & Zeller, 2006)
* Companies like Yahoo, Google, and Aol released user information to the FBI surveillance program PRISM (Gellman & Poitras, 2013)
* Mention data breaches (RESEARCH)
* An IoT company sold baby monitors with little to no effort put into security and they were hacked (RESEARCH) This will be an example of not a great start and make similarities to previous technology companies.

V. Conclusion­­­­

A. Synthesize and summarize your supporting arguments with your overall argument. In other words, explain how your supporting arguments make your overall argument believable.

* If the information that IoT companies collect is misused, the users that produced that information will have little legal support.
* Data mining can also give corporations more private information than what their users gave.
* In the past, there were abuses of consumer data by corporations which will likely continue.

1. Discuss the implications and limitations of your overall argument.

* The ownership of personal information by technology companies will likely not change unless there is an intervention or a significant number of users have a problem with it.
* There could be other factors not accounted for.

1. W­­­hat work do you need to do to feel ready to start writing your research paper? What remaining questions do you have?

* I need to have more relevant sources about my topic before I can feel comfortable starting on my paper. Specifically, on law governing privacy and how they apply to IT.
* I would also like to discuss my topic and refine it.
* What expectations do you have for this paper?

VI.      Reference List (So Far not in order)

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