The 4th amendment has been a standing pillar for the basic privacy of man throughout the evolution of the United States of America. Man has always held the basic right of privacy ever since the beginning of time endowed upon him by “Nature” or “Nature’s God”. Whether or not this is the privacy of physical property or digital information, the fourth amendment will always protect this. Over the years since the ratification of the Constitution, Americans have re-identified their rights to fit the development of technology in today’s society.

The government should not sacrifice freedom and liberty for security. It must be strong enough to protect the rights of the citizens without encroaching on the very rights it is trying to protect. America was developed upon one simple idea “freedom”. Today every message, call, and keystroke is monitored according to the Patriot Act of 2001. The U.S. Patriot Act grants the Justice Department the right to examine routing information, but not message content, without first establishing probable cause and getting a judge's permission. The program that monitors messages is called Carnivore. Unfortunately, a private study conducted by the Illinois Institute of Technology Research Institute, which was commissioned by the U.S. Justice Department, found several shortcomings in Carnivore. For example, the system did not keep track of individual users, so any operator is automatically defaulted to "administrator," leaving no audit trail. Also, the system lacked a feature that would require users to confirm that a court order was granted. In addition to the Patriot Act, the government needs to place a system of checks and balances to keep law in a cyber setting. The government should also place a system where no one entity can be the controller of all information. It is the job of the citizens of America to keep their government on the track.

Today people can buy a pizza online and can just easily fall victim to identity theft. With the advancement of technology, cyber crimes have become a huge detriment to society, therefore the government should protect the rights of citizens concerning identity theft. However, the government should not be able to listen and or store private conversations of countless Americans. There should not be a “big brother” watching each person without probable cause. Examples of this would be online shopping sites and social networking sites that are being monitored by government al agencies that have assumed guilt of a presumed innocent American citizen. Our cyber security is and will always be at risk because information is power and whoever holds the information becomes the powerful. Because of the power of information, the government must protect the citizens through the protection of that information.