The Fourth Amendment ensures that it is the right of the people to be guarded against unreasonable searches and seizures, and a warrant must be presented and supported by probable cause. *Katz v United States* ruled that the amendment’s protections do not apply when the party lacks a “reasonable expectation of privacy”. What is a reasonable expectation of privacy? This question has been asked frequently since 9/11, especially since the invention of the internet and emails since the 1967 court case.

A 2006 ruling (*Hepting v AT & T)*, allowed for the NSA to share the communications of AT & T customers, including telephone calls routed through the Internet. The prompt asks if the government should have access to emails older than 180 days. Current law states that if an email has not been accessed in 180 days, then the federal authorities can retrieve the email without using a warrant. Currently, this topic is up for debate. Half of our group agrees with the current law. If the customer hasn’t accessed the email in 180 days, then the federal authorities should have access to it. Some of us believe that this is true because we think that if the suspect hasn’t accessed the message in 180 days, then they either didn’t remember to delete it or they didn’t care about the message or they had nothing to hide. Some believe that if they are just talking with friends, then it really doesn’t matter to the authorities what the message contains. If it is someone on the Terrorist Watch List or other identifier, then we could possibly save lives by reading those messages.

The other half of our group disagrees with this law. Even though such information might be helpful, it is still an invasion of one’s privacy. For example, someone might have an innocent conversation and forget to delete it. While the information is private and innocent in nature, it might also be very invasive to that person. This could happen to anyone, and we question the usefulness to authorities.

We all disagree with the suggestion that the government can obtain the location of people via phones. People may already be tracked by GPS and Facebook check-ins. We believe that the government has no right to know where Americans are at all times. We have a certain right to privacy- a right guaranteed to us in the Bill of Rights by our founding fathers.