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Homework Assignment 2: Computation and the World

A transformation I would like to see in the world is better security. As our society becomes more and more advanced I have seen lots of issues arising with security in general. I think that technology advanced so quickly it was hard to keep up and security fell behind a little. For my family personally, security is really important to us because we have had our peace of mind taken from us too many times. When I was in high school, my family's house was broken into.  It is hard to describe the feelings that I had when this happened to me. Never did I think that this was something I needed to be concerned about because I never thought something like that would happen to me. I felt so violated and every sense of security I ever had before was swiped out from under me. I no longer felt safe in my own town that I lived in nearly my whole life and no longer did I feel safe in the only home I could ever remember living in.

More recently, my family's bank account was hacked into and all our money was taken out. Thankfully we were able to get the money back—but it took the bank nearly two months to sort through the issue. Even with a large bank such as Chase, someone was able to get around the system. My parents talk about the world they grew up in and the problems I have experienced in my lifetime is no where near to what they experienced—let alone even thought or needed to worry about.  Seeing my family endure these trials, I couldn't help but wonder what could have been done to prevent this all from happening. Most people, especially in my hometown do not realize how common this is. Unfortunate events like this are really out of any normal person's control. It is all anyone can really do to have a security system on their house and trust that their money will be safe in a bank. This is a big reason that I wanted to pursue computer science.

 I have always been really passionate about helping others. If I get to the end of my life and I look back and know that I brought something good to one or many people's lives I will feel that I lived a complete life. I believe that I am on earth for a purpose. My family certainly is the foundation of who I am today, but I would definitely say that I have formed my own worldview.  I believe that Jesus calls us to actions that honor God, but I am aware that never will we live in a world that each and every person. My worldview is that everyone should feel safe and comfortable using their technology knowing that their personal information is being kept safe. I feel like we are given the ability to create things that will better this world but we must be mindful and be sure to protect those around us—especially in this fast-paced, always looking to the next 'new thing' world.

I have put a lot of thought into this and I would like to say that I know exactly what type of software it would be that I want to create to transform our world for the better. If I had to say a type of software that could be created is just better security systems in our computers, applications, and games. It shouldn't be so easy for someone's identity to be stolen. I think that we do need to be more concerned with this issue because it can be so damaging to one person or a family for them to endure a lost sense of safety. I think that we need to be a little less concerned with the next trendy item, and more concerned with how this may negatively affect our society. If this transformation could begin to take place in our society and the world, I think we would live in a better place. Because as unfortunate as it is to say, I think in all this moving forward with technology, it sometimes places us backward a few steps.