

## Question 1

I believe that adding the point (f) to the “Regulations Specifying Publicly Available Information” will be a right thing to do if we consider it from purely utilitarian perspective. According, to utilitarian the consequence of the actions we do should bring maximum pleasure in the world.

The ways in which this change can bring happiness in the world is that if we think that when consent is not required companies can collect more and accurate data about people and if it uses it in the correct way like using the information for criminal background check of people, helping in finding a criminal or a kidnapped person, or using such collected data for a good scientific research then it will create more happiness in the world as it’s helping people overcome their problems. On the other hand, if the collected data is misused by someone it can create unhappiness. For instance, the chances of identity theft increases and hence privacy invasion, anyone can use your pictures edit them and post them in inappropriate ways but even in this example it’s still creating happiness for someone even if it’s in a wrong way. Like the person who is responsible for identity theft is still happy because he succeeds in achieving his goal.

Therefore, considering purely utilitarian perspective if you are happy then your actions to achieve that goal doesn’t really matter. So, not considering morals and ethical values here this change will ultimately bring happiness.

## Question 2

- a) The moral factor that I think should be considered while judging the consequences of such changes is, Desire satisfaction. According to Desire satisfaction theory, if a person has achieved what he desired then he is happy. Now, if the companies can use the publicly available data without worrying about the consent of the people. It becomes easy for them to satisfy their desire i.e., using someone's information for their own benefits. Moreover, it also satisfies the desire of the people who are using company's services to get information about someone. In this scenario both the sides get what they desired and hence increase in happiness and pleasure. Here, one may argue that we also must consider what was the desire of the person whose information was used without his consent but there is no proper answer to that argument because since we are using publicly available data, we can say that the person might have consensually kept it there.
- b) I believe that with the addition of moral factor the consequences of this potential legal change will be more happiness and pleasure in the world. Here, we don't want to consider whether the action that are leading to this happiness are right or wrong. So, the proposed changes to the law will bring more desire satisfaction because for the companies like Clearview, their greatest desire or goal is to provide best services by collecting accurate data and using it for personal gains. Now, with the addition of such law that barrier is not there, companies can easily satisfy the desire as nothing is legally stopping them from doing what they want. For instance, if someone desires to be famous and wants that their publicly available content or images are used and circulated then this will also increase happiness for them.

c) Personally, I think adding the point (f) to “Regulations Specifying Publicly Available Information” will be a right thing to do if we do not consider any moral or ethical values. For instance, if someone desires to do identity theft now with this change being present in the list it is easy for him to satisfy his desire, so happiness is increased. On other hand if someone needs help in creating cancer awareness campaign all they must do is make the information publicly available so anyone can use the information to help in the campaign. It will increase pleasure and happiness in the world irrespective of whether people used that for good purposes or not. Now, one may argue what if someone misuses the information, but if adding this change to the list will help people to satisfy their desires (whether good or bad) this change will bring happiness and as it’s bringing happiness, from the utilitarian perspective it is maximizing pleasure in the world.