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An article, “The Chilling Consequences of The Internet of Things,” has been posted on www.livemint.com one year ago. It has written by Rahul Matthan, founder at Trilegal, one of India’s leading law firm. The article discuss about how important privacy law is and the chilling consequences of Internet of Things. Most of his opinion is about his worry against the Internet of Things. But I think is too excessive. He gives the opinion by law point of view and it will inhibit the improvement of the Internet of Things.

It is interesting to talk about privacy and security on technology. The issue about privacy and security on technology is always echoed. One year ago, we have an issue about privacy and security on social media. Facebook, one of the biggest companies on social media, has been attacked by this issue. Their user data has been leaked to the third parties, i.e. Cambridge Analytica. And then, Cambridge Analytica use those data to win Donald Trump to be USA President. Therefore, Federal Trade Commission mulct Facebook 5 billion US dollars. After that, Facebook promised that they will make more powerful security system to protect their user’s data. Even, they have made the specific department to take care of user’s data privacy (Pertiwi, 2019, p. 1).

Same as the social media, this issue has attacked the Internet of Things. According to Matthan, we need law to solve this issue. He said, “We need to upgrade our laws to appropriately account for the impact that IoT will have on our lives. We will need to find alternatives for consent if the devices and sensors that are going to be collecting our data in the future are too small to come equipped with screens through which notices can be communicated and consent obtained.” On that statement, I agree with him. As I said previously, he gives the opinion about the Internet of Things by law point of view. He tried to protect our right of privacy. Of course, we need it. For example, the healthy tracker. It can help you to collecting data about your body condition, like your heartbeat rate, respiration rate, and record your physical activities. But the problem is sometimes the other can access your data and they can use it to attack you. For instance, they can report those data to your investor partner. They tell the investor that you are unfit because you have a poor heartbeat. And then, the investor will cancel the deal with you. So, obviously we need the privacy law.

According to Comer (2018), Internet of Things are the electronic device that connected and managed via Internet. These devices can operate the actuators and collect the data using the sensors automatically. After that, those data will be sent to device’s people who have authority to control the Internet of Things device through the Internet. About this thing, Matthan stated that the Internet of Things will be used to against us, it will take our privacy, and the impact will be frightening. In other word, he disagreed with the improvement of the Internet of Things.

In the digital era, I think it is hard to protect our personal data. Even, Semuel Abrijani (2019), Director General of Informatics Application Indonesia, stated that there is no privacy in the digital era (Rizki, 2019). Not only that, Edward Snowden (2013) has revealed the fact about National Security Agency (NSA), national intelligence agency of the United States. He revealed some of secret documents that prove that NSA has collected data via e-mail, telephone calls, and the internet that is used by many people in the world (Kristanti, 2014, p.1). So, if we disagree with the improvement of the Internet of Things, it does not help to protect our privacy.

The real problem is the technology especially the internet. However, we cannot stop using the technology and turn back to the old era. But we can minimize the impact. Our data privacy can be stolen by the irresponsibility parties because two cause, i.e. the security system and our negligence. The security system is entirely the responsibility of the provider. The provider must provide the powerful security system. And then, as a user, we must be careful in when using the technology, especially when technology that we use can collecting our personal data.

In this era, our privacy data is easy to get. Internet of Things only one of tools to obtain it, there are many platforms that can be used to obtain those data. It is too excessive to say that Internet of Things is device have broken our privacy. Disagree to the improvement of Internet of Things will not have a big impact on decreasing data theft. Therefore, we need the law that can defend us if sometimes our privacy data is misused.

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