Nikhil Wora
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Managing Your Data

Being in this class allows me to become more aware and informed about how our specific data is used throughout the world and how we can control that data. As I searched my name on Google, there were various searches of myself that were identifiable. The first five searches were my LinkedIn page, Twitter account, Github, Instagram, and my Youtube channel. All of these searches allow for someone to find my personal accounts or allow them to follow me, therefore, it is important that I make all my accounts private so it is not as accessible.

Furthermore, I reviewed my Google account settings which allowed me to realize that I can personalize my privacy settings to any level I would like. It allows me to view my personal info, data & personalization, security, and people & sharing. The personal information allows me to view my contact information and allows me to choose what others see. In addition, there are activity controls that can allow me to save my activity for better personalization.

In addition, I do have a saved browser history which appears whenever I check what I have been searching. However, it does not tell me how long it has been since I cached my images and files, however, it says I have 291 megabytes of files. In addition, my browser allows me to block my cookies or unblock my cookies as it can be personalized to my choice.

I tried to use both Pipl and Spokeo, however, Pipl did not work for me. Furthermore, I used Spokeo and it gave me personal information about myself. It had stated that my gender is Male, that I am twenty-two years old, and that I live in Germantown, Maryland. This information was different than just searching my name on Google, as it gave the viewers my contact information and not my social media information.

For gym purposes, I use my Apple Watch to obtain health information about my day. I can access my full history of data to the date that I had obtained the watch. There is a possibility of removing accessibility with other users so they will not know what information is being collected. I have given my two roommates access to my data which allows them to compare how many miles I've walked, minutes I've exercised, or when I worked out.

I had made my Facebook account when I was in middle school, and every year the usage of the application has regressed. My Facebook friends consist of many friends and family members I do not talk to as much anymore. Furthermore, no one can view my private content as I have made all my information personal to myself. The advertisements on Facebook are catered to a personal level which allows us to see advertisements we are entertained by. Facebook does a very good job of selling us on concepts we speak about daily.

I created a Twitter account when I was in high school. Previously, I used to be public on the application, however, now I have made myself private as I am looking for job opportunities and even the littlest of mistakes can alter their decisions of hiring you. I created a Snapchat account in high school as well as it allowed me to converse with all my friends through images. There is an option to have private stories but I do not add people on Snapchat if you are not already a good friend of mine. I do not share my location as I do not want anyone to track me or know where I am at.

I have owned an Iphone for most of my time that I have had a phone. I never look at screen time as I think the information is skewed as I spend a lot of time on many applications, but the screen time says I have not been using my phone much. My location settings are all off unless I am using the application at that moment. All the contacts in my phone consist of all people that I talk to daily or have for emergency events. I protect my phone with a four digit pin and a facial recognition process so no one can obtain information within my phone at their will.

Data is becoming a concept that evolves every year. It has become a priority for all companies to obtain data which allows us to understand other people and concepts. Data storage has become integral to many companies such as Facebook. However, we must be ethical in how we manage our data as we can abuse our powers such as Mark Zuckerburg. We need to not let them abuse us with our own information, and it is important that we all concur that we need to manage our data at our pace and not at other company paces.