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CSE 262 B

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New Privacy: Technology vs. User

Privacy isn’t just about the seclusion of one’s own home anymore. When society allows and even encourages each person to willfully post personal information for the entire world to see, privacy changes form. Ethics in society is now on a virtual level. As technology becomes more accessible, lines begin to fade and rules begin to break a lot easier. One man with one computer can copy and distribute explicit photos to the masses in a single day. This, in fact, has happened very recently to an expansive list of female celebrities including Jennifer Lawrence and Kate Upton. Some blamed Apple, the company behind iCloud (the hacked software), while others looked to Reddit and 4chan, the sites which spread the photos to the masses within minutes. Unfortunately for those readying their pitchforks, these are not the people to blame in this instance. Sufficient security measures have been put in place, and one simply cannot expect social media to not pass around hot topic issues. Technology companies and social media aren’t ethically or lawfully at fault for privacy scandals such as leaks like these; only the user is at fault.

Thesis:

Sufficient security measures have been put in place, and one simply cannot expect social media to not pass around hot topic issues. Technology companies and social media aren’t at fault for privacy scandals such as leaks like these; only the user is at fault.

Arguments:

Companies like Apple are smart enough to protect everything they need to in order to assure user privacy. Obviously, they know the laws regarding privacy and have likely spent weeks’ worth of time defining usability and privacy, so any breach in Apple’s system is improbable. That said, these companies want to give users a certain amount of freedom, and when this happens, individual accounts get breached.

With the amount of technology we work with in the average day, we should be expected to maintain our own privacy on the Internet. Apps, sites, search engines, and social media are constantly taking in information from our lives, and we should be able to control it. If you feel vulnerable or are sending explicit information/files, then you should know how to keep your transfers and storage safe and private.

**3. Peer review paper (Due Thursday, October 2 *at class time*)**

First, read the grading rubric. Then write a 1300-2000 word position paper arguing in support of your thesis*.* Please include a complete reference section (APA style) including the above listed article and any articles you might have found and used for your paper. Please include citations in your paper.

Bibliography

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/09/03/technology/trove-of-nude-photos-sparks-debate-over-online-behavior.html?\_r=1