Dependable Systems
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Training Exercises C4 (Privacy)

Issue 1: *Pro Tanto Bad*

In the video we claimed that privacy violations are pro tanto bad. Think about this claim. Give a compelling argument why this is true. Does the same hold for privacy threats?

Issue 2: *Nothing To Hide*

Sometimes, people say things like "I've got nothing to hide, thus surveillance is not bad." Why are they wrong?

Issue 3: *Argument*

Come up with a sound argument for or against the following claim or a reasonable conditionalization thereof:

> When it is possible that public security is severely threatened, states are morally permitted to use all or most privacy threatening and violating technologies they have to in order to decrease the possibility of the security threat.

Give sufficient reason to believe in the soundness of your argument.

Issue 4: *Puzzling Arguments*

Professor Clumsy wanted to present his students with some arguments, but messed everything up and forgot which sentences belong to which argument and whether it was a premise or a conclusion. Help Professor Clumsy to sort out everything.

(a) Try to reconstruct as many valid (non-trivial[1]) logical forms as possible from (I).

(b) Try to reconstruct as many valid (non-trivial) tabular forms from (II) as possible.

(c) Can you match your reconstruction from (b) with some of the reconstructions from (a)?

(d) Take a look at your results from (b). Are they sound? If no, attack the arguments.

[1]For the scope of this exercise (and only this exercise), the following things count as trivial: petitio principii (i.e. the conclusion is one of the premises), arguments from ex falso quodlibet (i.e. premises contradict each other), and nothing else.

(e) Take a look at (III). Try to construct two valid tabular arguments and their corresponding logical forms. It holds that every premise and the conclusion of these arguments is at least available in logical or in natural language form in (III).

(f) Take a look at your results from (d). Are they sound? If no, attack the arguments.

(I) a, $\neg a$, b, c, $\neg c$, d, $a \to b$, $b \to c$, $a \vee d$

(II)
- If states ought to promote public safety, they sometimes have to use privacy threatening technologies.
- Citizens cannot reasonably oppose the use of privacy threatening technologies by states.
- States do not have an obligation to promote public safety.
- Citizens can reasonably oppose the use of privacy threatening technologies by states.
- States sometimes have to use privacy threatening technologies.
- States ought to promote public safety.
- If citizens ought not to oppose privacy threats, states sometimes ought to violate their citizens' privacy.
- States sometimes ought to violate their citizens' privacy.
- If states sometimes have to use privacy threatening technologies, then citizens cannot reasonably oppose the use of privacy threatening technologies by states.
- Using CCTV and saving the video is a privacy violation.

(III)
- $P(A)$
- $Q(A)$
- $\forall x.R(x) \to \neg S(x)$
- All privacy threatening technologies can be privacy violating technologies.
- If CCTV is widely used in public and semi-public areas, it is prima facie bad to use it.
- CCTV can be a privacy violating technoglogy.
- If people have no choice to evade it, the use of privacy threatening technologies is prima facie bad.
- CCTV is a privacy threatening technoglogy.

Issue 5: ***Contextual Integrity***

Apply Helen Nissenbaum's contextual integrity approach to the following situations. It may be necessary to do a case analysis.

(a) A friend of yours tells you a secret, namely that she is homosexual but not yet ready to have her coming out. You promise not to tell anybody else. You break that promise by telling your little brother.

(b) A fitness tracker collects GPS data and, unbeknownst to the user, sends it to the manufacturer who sells it for money.

(c) Your tutor talks about how you performed in your last assignment with the lecturer.

(d) Your tutor talks about how you perform in your assignments with his flat mate.

(e) A secret service intercepts and collects all of your communication, because they rightfully believe that you are a terrorist.

(f) A secret service intercepts and collects all of your communication, because they intercept and collect everybody's communication.

Issue 6: ***Extra: Reading Nissenbaum***

Read the paper "Privacy and Contextual Integrity: Framework and Applications" by Barth et al., especially the first part up to page 9. How do you like the way that philosophy is combined with computer science here?