# LITERATURE REVIEW

Literature [survey](http://www.blurtit.com/q876299.html) is the most important step in software development process. Before developing the tool it is necessary to determine the time factor, economy and company strength. Once these things are satisfied, ten next steps are to determine which operating system and language can be used for developing the tool. Once the [programmers](http://www.blurtit.com/q876299.html) start building the tool the programmers need lot of external support. This support can be obtained from senior programmers, from [book](http://www.blurtit.com/q876299.html) or from websites. Before building the system the above consideration r taken into account for developing the proposed system.

This section provides background to the research through a review of some of the literature on privacy. The literature review is focused on those areas central to the scope of this research.

## The Concept of Privacy

What is privacy? It is an almost customary feature of any analysis of privacy to begin with a disclaimer about the inherent difficulty of defining exactly what ‘privacy’ is and disaggregating its various dimensions. It is something that is taken for granted and most people would have a sense of what privacy is but have difficulty putting it into words. The concept and meaning of privacy has long been debated by philosophers, social scientists, academic lawyers and other scholars. All definitions, to some extent, are based on assumptions about individualism and about the distinction between the realms of civil society and the state. However, many gloss over essential cultural, class-related and gender differences. Literature on privacy tends to give readers an overwhelming sense that privacy is a deeply contested concept, which often varies according to context and environment. (Bennett & Grant, 1999)

According to Bennett and Raab (2003), in Western culture, the modern claim to privacy and the contemporary justification for information privacy as a public policy goal was derived from a notion of a boundary between the individual and other individuals, and between the individual and the state. This concept of privacy rests on a construct of society as comprising relatively autonomous individuals and on notions of differences between the privacy claims and interests of different individuals. According to John Stuart Mill (as cited in Bennett & Raab, 2003), there should be certain ‘self-regarding’ activities of private concern, contrasted with ‘other-regarding’ activities to community interest and regulation. Shils (as cited in Bennett & Raab, 2003) argued that privacy is essential for the strength of American pluralistic democracy because it bolsters the boundaries between competing and countervailing centres of power. Dr Alan Westin, a leading academic (whose book *Privacy and Freedom* has shaped virtually all current thinking about privacy as a public issue), reinforced the importance of privacy for liberal democratic societies – in contrast to totalitarian regimes:

A balance that ensures strong citadels of individual and group privacy and limits both disclosure and surveillance is a prerequisite for liberal democratic societies. The democratic society relies on publicity as a control over government, and on privacy as a shield for group and individual life.

Westin also addresses the specific functions that privacy plays. It promotes freedom of association. It shields scholarship and science from unnecessary interference by government. It permits the use of a secret ballot and protects the voting process by forbidding government surveillance of a citizen’s past voting record. It restrains improper police conduct such as unreasonable search and seizure. It also serves to shield those institutions, such as the press, that operate to keep government accountable.

In a seminal law review article Samuel Warren and Louis Brandeis (1890) defined privacy simply as “the right to be let alone” – to go about life free from unreasonable interference by external forces.

Privacy has also been defined comprehensively:

Privacy is a concept related to solitude, secrecy, and autonomy, but it is not synonymous with these terms; for beyond the purely descriptive aspects of privacy as isolation from the company, the curiosity, and the influence of others, privacy implies a normative element: the right to exclusive control of access to private realms… the right to privacy asserts the sacredness of the person;… any invasion of privacy constitutes an offence against the rights of the personality – against individuality, dignity, and freedom. Arnold Simmel .

Privacy can be divided into the following facets Territorial privacy – concerning the setting of limits on intrusion into the domestic and other environments such as the workplace or public space.

* Privacy of the person – this is concerned with protecting a person against undue interferences such as physical searches and drug testing, and information that violates his or her moral sense;
* Privacy of communications, covering the security and privacy of mail, telephones, email and other forms of communication;
* Privacy in the information context – this deals with the gathering, compilation and selective dissemination of personal information such as credit data and medical records.

The discourse on privacy as a policy issue has largely focused on information privacy and it is this facet of privacy that this research project will focus on. In this sense, privacy can be defined as “the claim of individuals, groups or institutions to determine for themselves when, how and to what extent information about them is communicated to others.” (Westin, 1967, p7)

However, the rise to prominence of Internet communications and e-commerce has led to privacy of communications (and transmission) attracting more attention and concern. The increased concern with privacy of communications has caused some confusion between the meanings of information privacy and information security and the terms are often used interchangeably. As Clarke noted (as cited in Bennett & Raab, 2003), the term ‘privacy’ is used by some people to refer to the security of data or security of data during transmission as protection against various risks, such as data being accessed or modified by unauthorised persons. These aspects, however, are only a small fraction of the considerations within the field of ‘information privacy’. That is, data security is a necessary but not sufficient condition for information privacy. An organisation might keep the personal information it collects highly secure, but if it should not be collecting that information in the first place, the individual’s information privacy rights are clearly violated.