THE WORLD BEYOND COVID-19

Technology and Privacy

Meeting Date:	July 25, 2020
Meeting Time:	14:00
Meeting Location:	Zoom
Meeting Facilitator:	Anissa
Attendees #:	 € Amr: Panelist 1 € Andreas: Panelist 2 € Chris: Panelist 3 € Fahad: Panelist 4
Notetaker:	Anissa

Moderator (Intro/Knowledge Shared)

Tina: Developer @ Shopify.

Speaker Introduction

Amr: Software engineer & Concordia Graduate. Worked at Microsoft, IBM & Canadian Space Agency. Currently focusing on Privacy engineering at Shopify.

Andreas: Andreas works for Telus as a Security Consultant automating security solutions for both external and internal clients. Previously, he worked at Bell as a Security Specialist and at the Government of Canada as a Cybersecurity Intern. He holds a master's in Information Systems Security from Concordia University, and is now studying for the CISSP certification.

Chris: Chris is a software engineer on the Microsoft Threat Protection team. He, with his teamwork to protect enterprises from malicious actors and help keep their data safe. Previous experience at Google, Kronos and P&WC. He is passionate about all thing's privacy and offensive security related and enjoys helping others through software and its various applications.

Fahad: Fahad worked as a lawyer for a prominent law firm in Toronto before leaving to start his own legal technology company: SmartBail. SmartBail's software used machine learning and other data science techniques to increase efficiency, decrease bias and reduce unnecessary detention in Canada's bail system. Through his entrepreneurial ventures, he developed a keen interest in data governance and a strong drive to defend user privacy & autonomy in an economy that increasingly relies on surveillance capitalism.

Discussion: (Items/Knowledge Shared)

Question 1: How far should we be willing to compromise our privacy, and all its future consequences, to participate in social media? Are they even mutually exclusive? Should Canada ban the use of Tik Tok until we thoroughly investigate how it uses Canadian data?

Much of Zoom's success can be attributed to how user-friendly its products are. What level of security are we willing to sacrifice for this usability? What allows companies like zoom to get away with neglecting privacy & security? How can we prevent this from happening?

*Key Takeaway(s):

Question 2 As the virus began spreading rapidly, governments around the world scrambled to create solutions to track its exposure. Contract-tracing apps seem like an ideal solution to this problem, but do they really work? And at what cost? So, let's start off with understanding contact-tracing- Chris? Are there dangers we should be worried about with large scale contact-tracing? What will this technology most likely be used for once the pandemic is over?

*Key Takeaway:

Question 3 Can organizations use consumer data to influence decision-making on a subconscious level?

THE WORLD BEYOND COVID-19

Technology and Privacy

Two decades of flourishing surveillance capitalism, it is now the default business model for many industries. How was this allowed to grow to this point? Were they hiding it from us the whole time?

*Key Takeaway:

Additional Items:

Links provided by Panelists:

https://duckduckgo.com/

https://www.humanetech.com/
https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/
https://www.eff.org/
https://www.centrefordigitalrights.org/
https://consultation.quebec.ca

Questions From Audience:

Privacy in real life is protected by the constitution..what about online privacy law?

how far into the future is End To End encryption?

I have a question in regards to surveillance capitalism, why is it a sub-context or a departure from capitalism, if it is, is there a certain value that gives it that distinction from just capitalism?

What advice can your panelists offer to the average person protect themselves? Also, are there any organizations or non-profits that we can join, encourage or follow whose main purpose is the defense of our privacy and security?