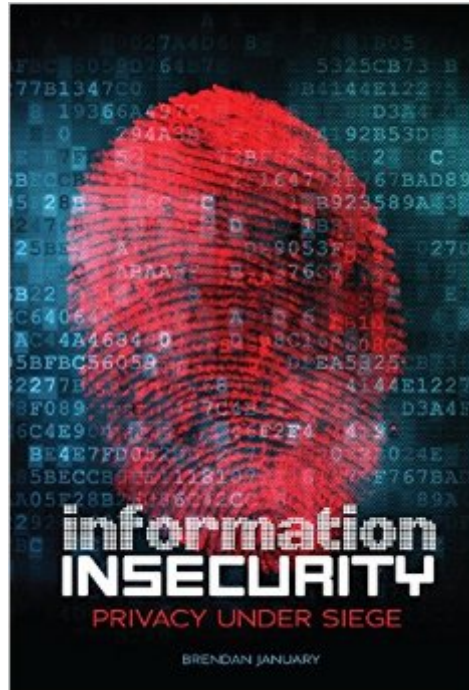


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# Information Insecurity: Privacy Under Siege (Nonfiction - Young Adult)



## Synopsis

The Internet gives us information, communication options, shopping opportunities, entertainment, and much more--all at the touch of a fingertip and much of it for free. But in exchange for these benefits, we may be losing a basic right: the right to privacy. By clicking to accept website user agreements, we often allow companies to track our activities online and to share our data with outside groups. In addition, the police and government agencies can also track people online--and this tracking is sometimes done secretly, without user agreements or search warrants. Privacy laws and the US Constitution are supposed to protect privacy in the United States, as are laws and conventions in other parts of the world. But judicial and legal systems have not kept pace with technology. And until laws catch up, users enter a legal gray area when they communicate digitally--an arena in which their most private conversations might not be protected from intrusion. Such intrusion can be dangerous: government agencies can use information obtained via digital spying to harass, arrest, or imprison citizens. Other groups can use private digital data to discriminate in banking, retail, housing, and other businesses. Around the world, critics are sounding the alarm about digital privacy. Many have called for stricter controls on data tracking. What rights do you have when it comes to privacy online? How can you be a smart cyber citizen and protect your personal digital data? These questions are at the heart of the Internet privacy debate.

## Book Information

Library Binding: 96 pages

Publisher: Twenty-First Century Books (August 1, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 146772517X

ISBN-13: 978-1467725170

Product Dimensions: 6.3 x 0.4 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,919,566 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #24 in [Books > Teens >](#)

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## Customer Reviews

It's a pain to sign those online users agreements, right? Yes, it can be and almost everyone scrolls

through the agreements quickly to sign them without reading them. When this happens "users frequently give companies the right to follow their online activities and to share their data with third parties, such as advertisers and merchants." Digital privacy, or lack of it, has led the Chinese and Iranian people to self-censor, but what exactly happens to us when we don't? Take for example Facebook. Everyone wants to be liked, but what if a future employer checks out your wall and doesn't like what he sees? The job you've always dreamed of could go to someone else. It's all about money and Facebook and other users are "selling information about their users." Don't be fooled into thinking that everything you do in the privacy of your own home is really private. Voluntarily putting information about yourself on Facebook is one thing, but be forewarned, you are being watched. Every site you visit hands out cookies and they aren't chocolate chip. Cookies track your activities and "over time trackers can develop a very accurate profile of an individual," one more accurate than you could ever imagine. Your smartphone can be even more revealing, "because a smartphone can serve as many devices at once—a cell phone, MP3 player, camera, radio, audio recorder, video recorder, and web browser." Talk about transparency! By using one, you can't hide from anyone, including the law! In this book you'll be able to take a close look at just how accurately companies can find out about you by profiling. It's way too revealing and scary. Speaking of revealing, don't count on any picture you've posted to remain private.

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