# A TAXONOMY OF PRIVACY

### INFORMATION PROCESSING



### **Aggregation** Combining of various pieces of personal information

A credit bureau combining an individual's payment history from multiple creditors.



## Insecurity

Carelessness in protecting information from leaks or improper access

An ecommerce website allowing others to view an individual's purchase history by changing the URL (e.g. enterprivacy.com?id=123)



### Identification linking of information to a particular individual

A researcher linking medical files to the Governor of a state using only date of birth, zip code and gender.



# **Secondary Use**

Using personal information for a purpose other than the purpose for which is was collected

The U.S. Government using census data collected for the puprose of apportioning Congressional districts to identify and intern those of Japanese descent in WWII.



### **Exclusion**

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

Failing to let an individual know about the information that others have about her and participate in its handling or use

A company using customer call history, without the customer's knowledge, to shift their order in a queue (i.e. "Your call will be answer in the order [NOT] receivied")

### INFORMATION COLLECTION



## Surveillance

Watching, listening to, or recording of an individual's activities

A website monitoring cursor movements of a visitor while visiting the website.



# Interrogation

Questioning or probing for personal information

An interviewer asking an inappropriate question, such as marital status, during a employment interview.

### Based on Dan Solove's A Taxonomy of Privacy

Information Collection

https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers cfm?abstract\_id=667622

Surveillance

Interrogation

# **Information Processing**

**Aggregation** Insecurity Identification **Secondary Use Exclusion** 



# **Breach of Confidentiality**

Breaking a promise to keep a person's information confidential

A doctor revealing patient information to friends on a social media website.



#### Disclosure

Revealing truthful information about a person that impacts her security or the way others judge her character

A government agency revealing an individual's address to a stalker. resulting in the individual's murder.



# Exposure

Revealing an individual's nudity, grief, or bodily functions

A store forcing a customer to remove clothing revealing a colostomy bag.



# **Increased Accessibility**

Amplifying the accessibility of personal information

personal information



A court making proceeding searchable on the Internet without redacting



### **▶●**Blackmail

Threatening to disclose personal information

A dating service for adulters charging customers to delete their accounts



# **Appropriation**

Using an individual's identity to serve the aims and interests of another

A social media site using customer's images in advertising



#### Distortion

Disseminating false or misleading information about an individual

A creditor reporting a paid bill as unpaid to a credit bureau

# **INVASION**



### Intrusion Disturbing an individual's

tranquility or solitude An augmented reality game

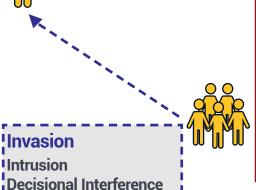
directing players onto private residential property.



### **Decisional** Interference

Intruding into an individual's decision regarding her private affairs

A payment processor declining transactions for contraceptives



# **Information Dissemination**

**Breach of Confidentiality Disclosure Exposure Increased Accessibility Blackmail Appropriation** Distortion



