

The Privacy Dilemma in the Social Networking Age: With a Focus on Facebook

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Abstract

This article explores the privacy dilemma in the social networking age. It provides an analysis of the law and policy of privacy on social network sites, using Facebook as its principal example. It first explains the features of social network sites and how Facebook users socialize on the site. Secondly, it analyzes how and why Facebook users misunderstand the risks involved, and how their privacy suffers as a result. This article further tries to apply Nissenbaum's "contextual integrity" theory of privacy to understand the privacy issues arising from Facebook platform and how policymakers can help preserve user privacy on social network sites.

Keywords: social network sites, information privacy theories, freedom of speech, Facebook, protection of personal information, information privacy, contextual integrity, right to be forgotten

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