**Youth and Justice: Digital Footprint Project**

**Anonymity and Privacy**

Students in First Year Seminars 45, 46, 47 | Professor Ric Curtis

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**Is Your Information Safe?**

Jessica Felix

**HYPOTHESIS**

Most young adults are uninformed about the lack of internet privacy, but when they find out, they’re not too happy about it.

**KEY FINDINGS**

- Setting your social networks settings to private doesn’t necessarily make them so.
- Call phone companies give out your information for money.
- Schools spy on their students online unless there’s mutual friends.
- Some employers include checking social networks as background checks.

**INTERVIEW #1**

Me: Are you aware that the National Security System monitors you?  
Luis: Yea, I’ve heard.  
Me: Do you mind being watched?  
Luis: Yes, but there’s nothing much we can really do.

**INTERVIEW #2**

Paolo: What do I do is that I get a phone & I put it under someone else’s name. So, whatever I do is not under my name.  
Me: & with social networks?  
Paolo: Yeah. Even in my GED classes they asked me if I had Facebook so they can see it for the future. I know that they’re watching.  
Me: Do you think that the site is harmful or are you just crazy about wanting to get a job?  
Paolo: Yeah, but I think that if I use it correctly it could be good.

**REFERENCES**

- The Writing on the (Facebook) Wall: The Use of Social Networking Sites in Hiring Decisions, Journal of Business and Psychology
- Personnel selection Legal issues Social networking sites Social media Discrimination Prescreening

**Research Question**

**How to feel safer**

- Do not post personal information.
- Refrain from putting pictures up where you can see certain locations especially where you live.
- Keep your friends list to people you actually know.
- Try not to meet new people online unless there’s mutual friends.

**Do We Really Have Privacy?**

Nuvia Morales

**Research Questions**

- Are people who spend more time on the internet more vulnerable to having their account hacked?
- Are women more vulnerable to having their account hacked than men?

**Findings about Frequent Internet Use**

More time on the internet means greater chance that your account may be hacked.

**Findings about Men and Women**

- Heavy users of Facebook and Instagram tended to have the accounts hacked more than light users.
- Instagram is the fastest growing social media amongst men and women, but women tend to be heavier users than men.
- The more you use the internet, the more you are exposed to dangers, such as your account being hacked.

**Conclusions**

- Employers are searching you over the internet when considering you for a job.
- It is unfair that they use your social life against you when it has no influence on your professional life.
- Internet users are limiting the number of public accounts they open.

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**Privacy in the Workplace**

Kristopher Antonacci

**Research Question**

Privacy is at all time low in the workplace.

**Findings**

- “I interviewed for the job, they seemed extremely interested…then they called me two days later and said ‘I am sorry for the inconvenience. Due to your Facebook photos, we can no longer consider you.’”

**Methods**

- Survey of 690 internet users
- Interviews with various job candidates
- Observations
- Existing Sources

**Digital Footprint’s Dangerous Trail**

Robert Harmon

**Research Question**

Does using Instagram make a person more likely to get in trouble or have their accounts hacked?

**Findings**

- 50% of the people visit Instagram more than 10x per day, as compared with only 2% of Facebook users who visit it more than 10x per day.

**Methods**

- Survey of 690 young internet users
- In-depth interviews with Instagram users
- Observations of Instagram users and their internet activity
- Literature review on the topic of problems created by internet use

**Conclusions**

- Instagram use is heavy among people that use the site, but many users seem to be unaware of the risks that the site and others like it can pose to their futures.
- More awareness of the risks of internet use is needed.