

# CSCI 245 Life, Computers, and Everything Privacy and Government

Source: Ethics for the Information Age, Michael Quinn, 6th edition

[Image source](#)

# The Nothing to Hide Argument

*“... most people ‘go through their daily lives believing that surveillance processes are not directed at them, but at the miscreants and wrongdoers’ and that ‘the dominant orientation is that mechanisms of surveillance are directed at others’ despite ‘evidence that the monitoring of individual behavior has become routine and everyday’.”*

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nothing\\_to\\_hide\\_argument](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nothing_to_hide_argument)

# Census Records (2010)

- How many people were living or staying in this house, apartment, or mobile home on April 1, 2010?
- Were there any additional people staying here April 1, 2010 that you did not include in Question 1?

# Census Records (2010)

- Is this house, apartment, or mobile home:  
owned with mortgage, owned without  
mortgage, rented, occupied without rent?
- What is your telephone number?

# Census Records (2010)

- Please provide information for each person living here. Start with a person here who owns or rents this house, apartment, or mobile home. If the owner or renter lives somewhere else, start with any adult living here. This will be Person 1. What is Person 1's name?

# Census Records (2010)

- What is Person 1's sex?
- What is Person 1's age and Date of Birth?
- Is Person 1 of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?
- What is Person 1's race?
- Does Person 1 sometimes live or stay somewhere else?

# IRS Records

- Personal wealth or debt
  - Family income
  - Value for each of your assets
- Charitable donations
- Medical expenses
- ...

<https://www.irs.gov/uac/irs-freedom-of-information>

# FBI National Crime Information Center

- Article File
- Gun File
- Boat File
- Securities File
- Vehicle File
- Vehicle and Boat Parts File
- License Plate File
- Missing Persons File



# FBI National Crime Information Center

- **Records on individuals**, including children, who have been reported missing to law enforcement and there is a reasonable concern for their safety.

# FBI National Crime Information Center

- **Foreign Fugitive File:** Records on persons wanted by another country for a crime that would be a felony if it were committed in the United States.

# FBI National Crime Information Center

- **Identity Theft File:** Records containing descriptive and other information that law enforcement personnel can use to determine if an individual is a victim of identity theft or if the individual might be using a false identity.

# FBI National Crime Information Center

- **Immigration Violator File:** Records on criminal aliens whom immigration authorities have deported and aliens with outstanding administrative warrants of removal.

# FBI National Crime Information Center

- **Protection Order File:** Records on individuals against whom protection orders have been issued.

# FBI National Crime Information Center

- **Supervised Release File:** Records on individuals on probation, parole, or supervised release or released on their own recognizance or during pre-trial sentencing.

# FBI National Crime Information Center

- **Unidentified Persons File:** Records on unidentified deceased persons, living persons who are unable to verify their identities, unidentified victims of catastrophes, and recovered body parts. The file cross-references unidentified bodies against records in the Missing Persons File.

# FBI National Crime Information Center

- **Protective Interest:** Records on individuals who might pose a threat to the physical safety of protectees or their immediate families. Expands on the the U.S. Secret Service Protective File, originally created in 1983.



# FBI National Crime Information Center

- **Gang File:** Records on violent gangs and their members.

# FBI National Crime Information Center

- **Known or Appropriately Suspected Terrorist File:**  
Records on known or appropriately suspected terrorists in accordance with HSPD-6.

# FBI National Crime Information Center

- **Wanted Persons File:** Records on individuals (including juveniles who will be tried as adults) for whom a federal warrant or a felony or misdemeanor warrant is outstanding.

# FBI National Crime Information Center

- **National Sex Offender Registry File:** Records on individuals who are required to register in a jurisdiction's sex offender registry.

# FBI National Crime Information Center

- **National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Denied Transaction File:** Records on individuals who have been determined to be “prohibited persons” according to the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act and were denied as a result of a NICS background check. (As of August 2012, records include last six months of denied transactions; in the future, records will include all denials.)

# FBI National Crime Information Center

- **Violent Person File:** Once fully populated with data from our users, this file will contain records of persons with a violent criminal history and persons who have previously threatened law enforcement.

# U.S. Patriot Act Title II

- "Enhanced Surveillance Procedures"
- Most controversial aspects of the act
- Gather "foreign intelligence information" from both U.S. and non-U.S. citizens
- Any investigations must not be undertaken on citizens who are carrying out activities protected by the First Amendment
- Grants access to IP addressing and routing information



# U.S. Patriot Act Title II

“I don’t think before The Guardian broke the story that anybody thought that the Patriot act authorized the government to pick up phone data every time any American picks up the phone to call anywhere.”

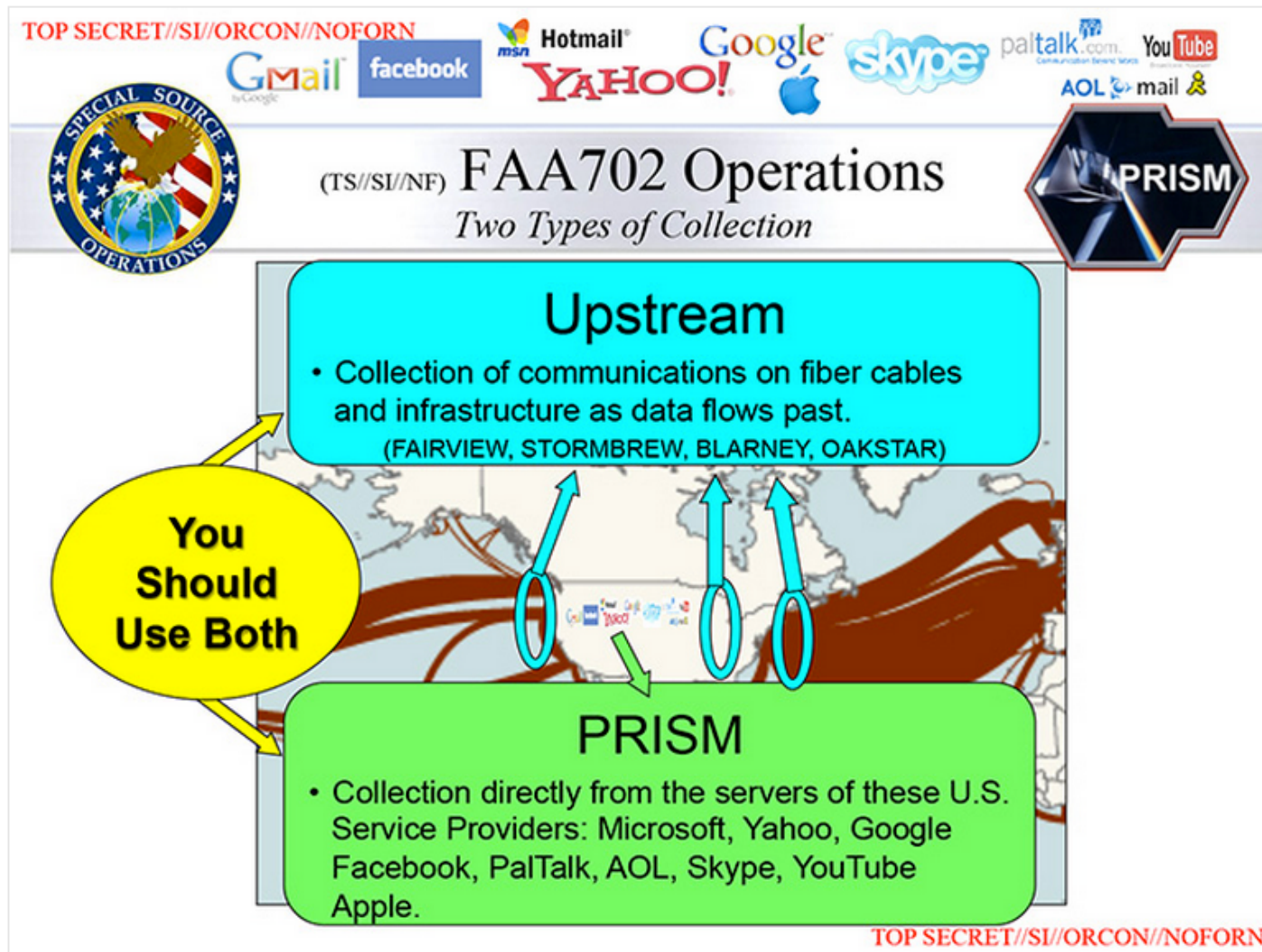
**David Cole**

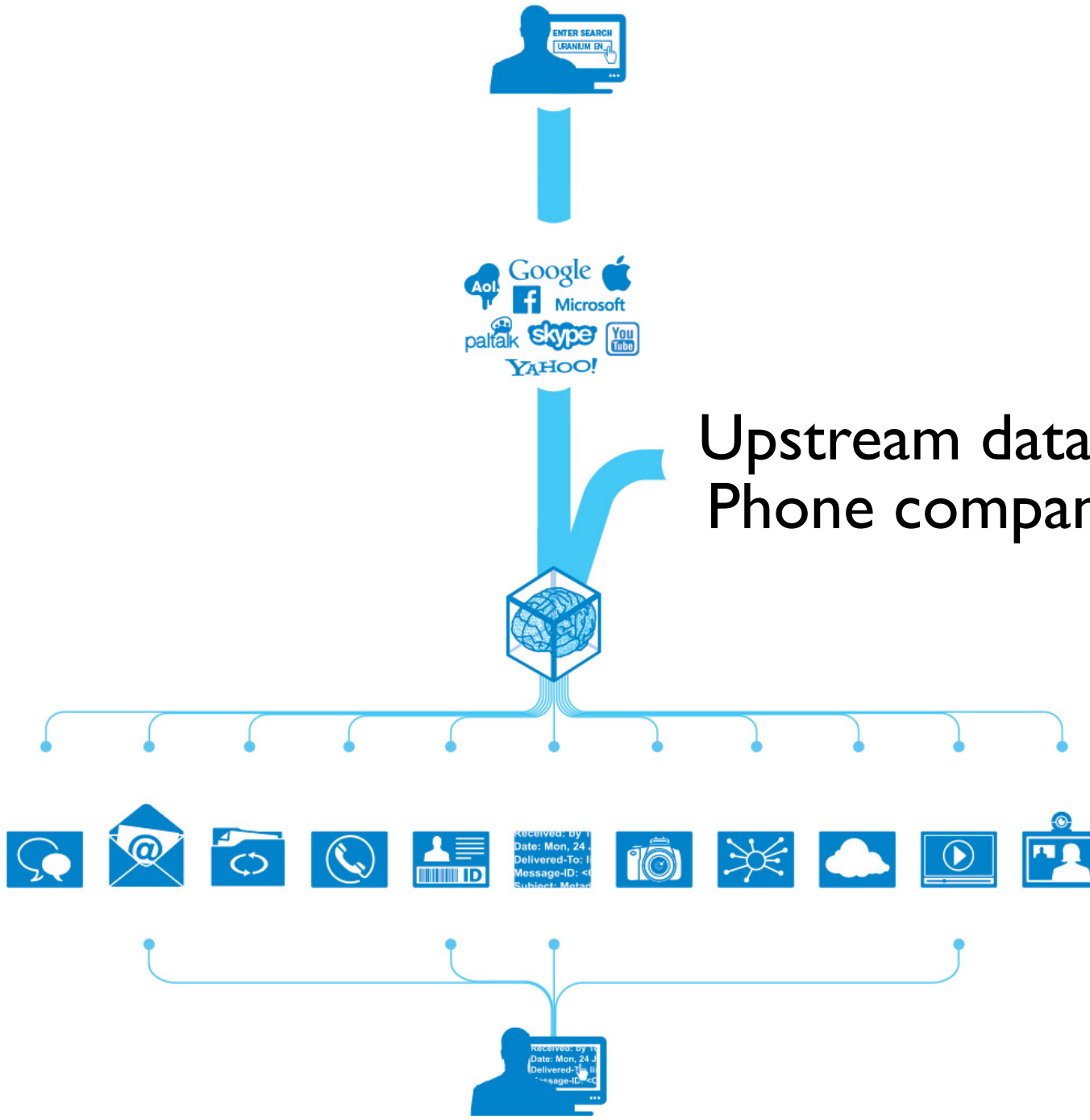


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJq01rSjUSw>



# PRISM





Upstream data  
Phone companies' data

# FISA / PATRIOT Act

“When Congress finally passed the FISA Amendments Act in July 2008, it included both immunity and a four-year extension of the government's warrantless spying powers. But few members of Congress realized the breadth of the surveillance powers they were effectively approving.”

June 6, 2013

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2013/06/06/how-congress-unknowingly-legalized-prism-in-2007/>

# FISA / PATRIOT Act

“The **Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court** (“the FISC” or “the Court”) authorizes this program under the “business records” provision of the **Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act** (FISA), 50 U.S.C. § 1861, enacted as section 215 of the **USA PATRIOT Act** (Section 215).”

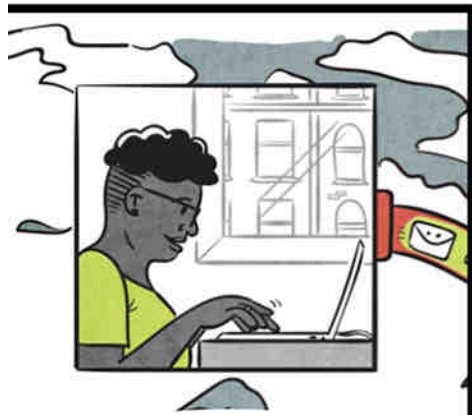
**August 9, 2013**

<http://publicintelligence.net/doj-bulk-telephony-collection/>

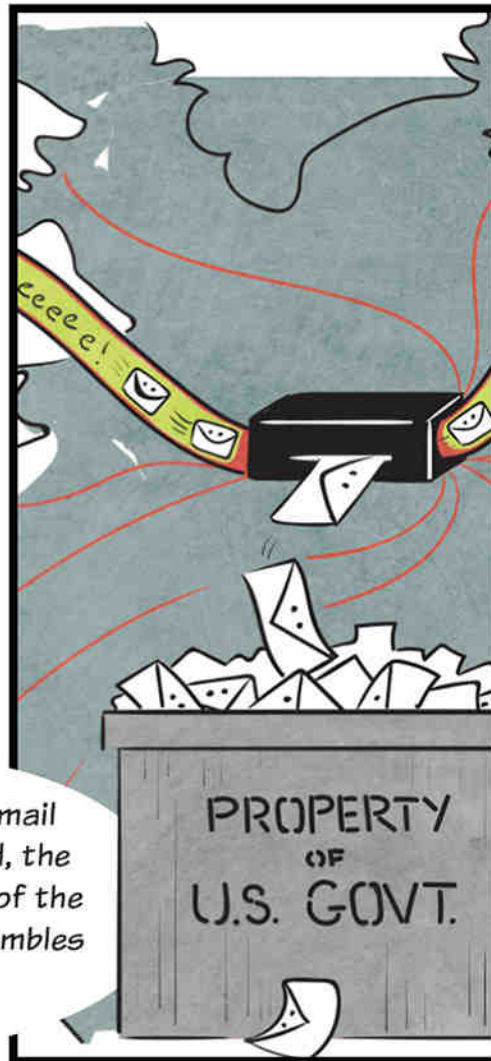


# ACLU

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION



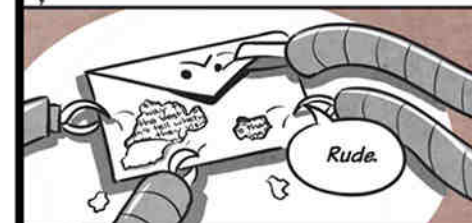
Let's say you send an email to a friend. Your email is broken down into little packets of data.



But before your email gets to your friend, the NSA makes a copy of the packets and reassembles the message.



Once the NSA has your email, it searches through it for *thousands* of "identifiers"—like phone numbers and email addresses of foreign surveillance targets.



Illustrations by Hallie Jay Pope

# Edward Snowden

- Former technical assistant for the CIA
- Former employee of the defense contractor Booz Allen Hamilton
- Worked at the National Security Agency for four years as an employee of outside contractors



# Alipay ID

“Trust makes it simple.”

- Provide your cell phone number
- Scan your national ID card
- Scan your driver’s license
- Scan your car’s license plates
- Quick and convenient: better than bank bureaucracy

# Alipay ID

## Features

- My Car
- Social Net
- Link to money market account
- Credit system



# Alipay ID

“Trust makes it simple.”

“In 2014, the State Council, China’s governing cabinet, publicly called for the establishment of a nationwide tracking system to rate the reputations of individuals, businesses, and even government officials. The aim is for every Chinese citizen to be trailed by a file compiling data from public and private sources by 2020, and for those files to be searchable by fingerprints and other biometric characteristics. The State Council calls it a ‘credit system that covers the whole society.’”

<https://www.wired.com/story/age-of-social-credit/>



# National ID Card: Should we?

# National ID Card: Should we?

A truly reliable form of identification

A mechanism to reduce illegal immigration

A mechanism to reduce crime

Not a compromise to the principles of  
democracy

# National ID Card: Should we?

Not a guaranteed form of identification

Cannot create 100% accurate biometrics

No evidence that it would reduce crime

A mechanism for government surveillance

Subjects law-abiding people to fraud, to indiscretion, and to errors