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From: Dale Hill  
Posted At: Wednesday, March 10, 2004 9:07 AM  
Posted To: spywareworkshop2004  
Conversation: Monitoring Software  
Subject: Monitoring Software

Gentlemen:

As a private citizen I am deeply disturbed and offended by corporate and Government entities that develop and use software that is installed on an individual's computer WITHOUT their knowledge or permission. This includes monitoring software that tracks e-mail and browsing habits, or keyloggers (software that records every keystroke of the individual's computer).

The basis of individual freedom starts with the right to privacy. Two hundred years ago our republic respected individual rights, but as our republic has changed into the empire we have today, our Government has decided it must monitor all individuals with the weak excuse that they are only doing their duty by protecting our safety.

The encroachment of Government into the individual's affairs has been dramatic. This has been a slow process that has increased in tempo with the advent of the terrorist acts of 9-11. Governments are made of men. Men in Governments are no different than men in any position of authority. They more authority the get the more they want. Since they have the authority, they feel that some how they are enlightened and wiser than the rest of mankind. Sooner or later (usually sooner) Government then becomes the personal tool of those in authority. And then we are back to the old game of kings and serifs and the kings always rule and the serifs always suffer.

Our republic was suppose to be a new experiment to ensue the rights of men. Unfortunately, it has lost sight of it's original purpose. Our Government is now run by elitists. Our Congress is composed of millionaires. Unless we return the individual back to the status he/she deserves, our republic will follow the road of all past empires-- eventual ruin and decay.

The rights of the individual start with the right to privacy and to be left alone by Government and corporations. This is why I believe the use of invasive software by Government and corporations is so dangerous. I urge you to remember this when you develop your regulations about this kind of software. Please remember the true purpose of our republic-- to give the individual empowerment and freedom.

Sincerely

Dale Hill