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Conversation: Concerned about Spyware / Adware
Subject: Concerned about Spyware / Adware
Importance: High

Hello,

As a longtime computer user I was fortunate enough to find out about Spyware when it was first reported on. I was able to download a reputable software product and remove several hundred cookies and other files from my computer but the revelation upset me that even an experienced computer user is not free of this plague. How are the Millions of novice computer users going to fair against an enemy that don't even know exists?? A co-worker just had his bankcard # stolen and used to purchase items in Canada. The only place he's ever used this card is on-line to purchase 1 item! If you think identity theft is bad now, wait a couple years until people find keystroke Trojans stealing their bank card numbers and passwords.

This problem doesn't just limit itself to Spyware (which is criminal in my opinion) but also to Adware as well. Anything that 'pushes' advertising content to a desktop is crossing a line. No one signs up for this, no one wants this, and some don't even know why it's happening to them. How do I explain to my 70 year-old father that someone is putting software on his computer to send him ad's for Viagra and on-line pharmacies?

I just pray that something is done about this because right now all I see in my future is more Spyware, Adware, and Spam. All these things should be criminalized and the people who create these things should be fined or jailed.

Thank you,
Tom Pacia
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