

From:

Posted At: Monday, April 12, 2004 5:44 PM

Posted To: spywareworkshop2004

Conversation: Comment -- Spyware is a violation of privacy and good business practices

Subject: Comment -- Spyware is a violation of privacy and good business practices

FTC Commission--

Regarding your upcoming spywareinfoSHOP --

Comment: Anti-spyware

The public is poorly informed or educated on how to deal with adware aka spyware. There may or may not be a EULA that they click on when installing software that informs them; however, legalese is such that they have no clue what it means.

I'm VERY expert on computer issues, and I still managed to pick up two different spyware packages during the past couple of months; however, since I run secondary software to maintain my computer, I found it fairly soon after and was able to uninstall or delete it. Most are not so fortunate.

Spyware is anti-privacy. Spyware is anti-machine. It bogs computers down until they are sluggish beyond belief, crash most other software and cause nothing but problems.

The public will never be sufficiently self-educated to deal with all of the security issues surrounding a computer with internet access--whether it's viruses, worms, or spyware. Since these programs accomplish little or nothing to genuinely generate sales for businesses, they can't fall in the marketing or advertising realm. No one knows "what" they do in terms of what information is generated and who benefits. They are just another parasite that destroys the public's confidence in the Internet and the businesses who do try to make a living on it.

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