

Karen Amaral

August 11, 2018

Federal Trade Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Suite CC-5610 (Annex C)  
Washington, DC 20580

Re: Competition and Consumer Protection in the 21st Century Hearing, Project Number P181201

My personal online information is for me, only. I should have a say in what is collected and how it is used, but big companies like Google don't give me a say. I didn't read the terms and conditions when I got a Gmail account, but the average person can't understand them anyway. It doesn't matter if it's a free service; I still want my privacy.

Google is such a big company that they don't care about us little people. They just do what they want. Knowing that they can track phones even when location services are turned off feels like Big Brother watching us. It's also disturbing that they silence certain political views online. They shouldn't know how I'm thinking or feeling politically. I don't think it's anybody's business!

I already know what it's like to have my data used by others. About six years ago, we were in Las Vegas, and someone stole our number and used it in Florida. It was investigated, but we never found out who did it. I don't like people being able to collect my online data, and then use my information to make money. It should be *private*.

Unfortunately, we really can't avoid using companies like Google and Facebook. There's nobody else out there. Who else are you going to use? The American public needs more online options. These companies wouldn't be able to get away with as much as they do if there were more competition. Then, if people found out these companies were profiting off of their data, we could just drop them and go to somebody else. As it is, we're stuck. We shouldn't have to give up our data to use the only services that are available.

Regards,

Karen Amaral

