

Vernon Leavitt –

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

August 1, 2018

Vernon Leavitt

To Whom It May Concern:

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

Everything a person does online generates data. When names aren't involved, that doesn't bother me, but when they use my personal information to send me ads to purchase things, I don't like it. They are infringing on my personal freedom. As an example, I was online in a store but I did not purchase from them, then other manufacturers sent me ads for the same product. You see this all the time and I have come to expect it, but I do not like it. You know they are selling your personal information.

Like many Americans, I use Facebook, Google and YouTube. You have to accept their terms and conditions or you cannot use their services. It is written in legal language that people cannot understand, therefore, people cannot understand the legal ramifications of what they are reading. I don't want to stop using any of these internet services, I need them so rules need to change.

When a company offers a free app or service, they need to generate capital, so I understand that. They sell your data, but it should be limited; no names should be involved. I was included in a group of individuals that were hacked on Yahoo. I have no idea what company put my information at risk. I only know I was included in the group that was hacked but not the consequences. That makes we feel vulnerable.

There are companies whose practices create a monopoly. This is illegal but it is still happening. Anti-competitive behavior is wrong. Consumers need to be able to choose what they believe is the best quality for their money.

Removing the opinions of others is wrong! We need the internet to follow the Bill of Rights. Censorship removes our freedom. Censorship is what got us into the mess we are in now.

Sincerely,

Vernon Leavitt