

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

People should have a say in what online data is collected and how it is used. Like most people, I use many of the major online platforms, like Amazon, Google, and Facebook. Signing up for these services, I may have glanced over their terms and conditions, but they are written in a way that the average person may find hard to understand. Nevertheless, I don't think it is fair that just by agreeing to their terms for use for their sites, these companies should have the right to use my personal online data for sell and profit. I am hoping that the Federal Trade Commission will put an end to this and protect users from this invasion of our privacy.

I believe we should be able to have privacy, and the way our online data is not being protected is like an invasion of it. I also don't think that phones, like the Google Android, should be able to track its users' location, even when the phone is off. Although this may help out in an emergency, I don't like these companies tracking me if it is not an emergency.

These companies just seem to do what they want to do. People who use these services still have the right to privacy, and their personal information should not be bought and sold. I'm not sure what the answer is, but I know that something needs to be done by the FTC to eliminate this practice. I have been a victim of identity theft when somebody used my credit card. This just shows how easy it is for people to access personal information when it is not protected properly.

Companies like Google have created a monopoly, where theirs is the only choice available. Having limited choices keeps the market from being competitive. Like any other business, people should have more choice when it comes to online platforms. Perhaps if there were more choices, people would be able to use services that did not sell their data to other companies. I hope the FTC takes the online privacy issue seriously, and will work to regulate how our private data is bought and sold.

Sincerely,

Vicki Studley

