

August 10, 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

I want consumers to be given back control of their personal data. If I wanted my personal information out there, I'd put it out there myself. Moreover, I don't want someone making money off of my personal information. I would like to have a lot more say on how my data is collected and used by companies like Google and Facebook, so I hope the FTC will address this issue.

I did not read the terms fully when I signed up for the sites and apps that I use. I did read part of the terms and conditions section of one, but it's long, and some of it is hard to understand. We need to have clearer disclosures of what is being done by these services. The terms should be more understandable and more upfront so that the average person can know what information is being collected and what it is being used for.

Google's Android phones have been tracking users, even when they turn off the location function. I keep my location feature disabled on my phone because I am concerned about being tracked. I wasn't aware that this was going on until I was told about it, and it makes me upset to know this has been happening. Additionally, I worry about certain political viewpoints being silenced by YouTube. If people are censored, and only some are heard, then correct decisions can't really be made by people.

My daughter's personal information, including her Social Security number, was compromised. That could have ruined her life, so it was very concerning. We were lucky that we got it straightened out, but many others' data breaches are not. I remember hearing about the people who were a part of the Equifax breach. The hackers got information that no one wants to give out today because of Internet-based identity theft. It was bad enough that this kind of thing happens at retail stores, but when it happens at Equifax, that's really, really scary. That is a company you trust to protect your personal information.

It's just crazy that we are getting to the point that we don't have any privacy at all. I don't have anything to hide, but what I do and where I go is my business and my family's business. Sometimes it's not even my family's business. It's *mine*. And your privacy is *yours*. It should be illegal for companies to make billions of dollars of off *our* privacy.

Sincerely,

Janice Irvine