

Daryl Davies

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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

No one should be able to make money off the back of somebody else, especially if they're not being compensated for it. I use eBay, Amazon, and Google all the time, and I admit I did not read the terms and conditions to engage with these websites because it's the same old jargon over and over. The average person can't understand it. If these companies are going to mine and sell their users' personal data, it should state that clearly right up front and specify exactly what they're selling, whether it's the history of the sites you've visited or what you've purchased.

I couldn't really avoid using services like Amazon and Google without it negatively impacting my life. The absence would be felt. However, I don't think my need for their services should entitle them to the use of all my personal data. I'd like to see it being kept private. They wouldn't want me to use *their* data. In fact, I think there's actually a clause in the terms that says you can't use their data! It's a one-way street.

I also don't like how these companies are able to prioritize search results and censor political views, either. Most people just click on the first couple of things they see, and that's what they go with. Companies don't tell you up front that they're going to put their own products in front of everybody else's! When it comes to politics, those types of actions can tip the scales. It's not good for either party to have an unfair advantage, and it's happened more than once.

We need more options to choose from because that always levels the playing field. The more options we have, the better it is for everybody. It keeps companies from having a monopoly. I think they'd be less inclined to abuse their user's data if they knew consumers could go elsewhere, too.

I don't like giving out my personal data, and I don't want online companies to do it either. I've already experienced being a part of two security breaches--one at a bank and one at an online retailer. I'd rather my information just stayed private. It's not fair that companies control the information you see, and it's not fair that they can profit off of others without their permission or compensation. I hope the FTC will step in and put a stop to those practices.

Sincerely,

  
Daryl Davies