What’s Privacy?

“Privatus” (vs. publicus) referred to a citizen who was not a public official or a member of the military.

What’s Privacy? (more)

- The quality or condition of being secluded from the presence or view of others
- The ability to seclude yourself or your information
- The state of being free from unsanctioned intrusion
- The state of being concealed; secrecy

What’s Privacy? (even more)

- Boundaries of your privacy?
- Privacy and security
History of Privacy

- *The Right to Privacy*, Samuel Warren and Louis Brandies (1890):
  - “It is our purpose to consider whether the existing law affords a principle which can properly be invoked to protect the privacy of the individual.”

Privacy Rights

- Third Amendment to the United States Constitution:
  - “No soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.”
- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 12:
  - “No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honor and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.”

Types of Privacy (I)

- Physical

Types of Privacy (II)

- Organizational
Types of Privacy (III)

- Informational

Internet Privacy

- Expose and control personal information over the Internet
- Major concerns:
  - Unauthorized access by third-parties
  - Centralism of personal information on web sites

Privacy in Social Networks (I)

- It becomes even more challenging.
- In social media, conversations spread and contexts collapse.
  - Persistence
  - Searchability
  - Replicability
  - Invisible audience

Privacy in Social Networks (II)

- Small change may cause privacy intrusion
  - Facebook 'News Feed' feature on 5 Sept. 2006
  - Facebook did not make anything public that was not already public, but search disrupted the social dynamics.
Conclusion (I)

- Offline, people have physical features like walls and limited audio range that help them have a sense of just how public their actions are.
- The digital world has different properties and these can be easily altered through the development of new technologies, radically altering the assumptions that people have when they interact online.

Conclusion (II)

- Social networks are here to stay, although they are complicating many aspects of daily life. We should understand how our practices fit into a broader societal context.

References

- Wikipedia