

Timothy Patrick Libert

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Research Interests

Computer Security & Privacy, Internet Governance & Policy, Web-Scale Data Mining & Analysis, Free Expression & Censorship

Academic Appointments

Special Faculty Instructor, Carnegie Mellon University, 2018 - Present
Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, University of Oxford, 2017-2018
Doctoral Research Fellow, University of Pennsylvania, 2012-2017

Education

Ph.D. Communication, University of Pennsylvania, 2017.

Comprehensive exams passed with distinction.

Dissertation: *Track the Planet: A Web-Scale Analysis of How Online Behavioral Advertising Violates Social Norms*

M.A. Communication, University of Pennsylvania, 2014.

B.A. Major Sociology, Minor Computer Science, New York University, 2004.

Grants, Fellowships, & Awards

Best Paper Award, ACM Conference on Web Science, 2018.

Best Paper Nominee, The Web Conference (WWW), 2018.

Fellow, Alexander von Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society, Berlin 2016

Senior Fellow, Information Controls Fellowship Program, Open Technology Fund, 2015

Fellow, Center for Media, Data, and Society, Central European University, Budapest 2015

Flash Grant, Shuttleworth Foundation, 2015

Dissertation Fellowship, Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania, 2016 - 2017

Research Fellowship, Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania, 2012 - 2016

Top Student Paper, International Communication Association, Communication and Technology Division, 2015

Consortium on Media Policy Studies Research Fellowship, Summer 2013

Publications

Peer-Reviewed

Libert, Timothy (April, 2018). An Automated Approach to Auditing Disclosure of Third-Party Data Collection in Website Privacy Policies. *The Web Conference (WWW2018)*. *Best Paper Nominee*.

Binns, Reuben; Lyngs, Ulrik; Van Kleek, Max; Zhao, Jun; Libert, Timothy; Shadbolt, Nigel (May, 2018). Third Party Tracking in the Mobile Ecosystem. *ACM Conference on Web Science*. *Best Paper Award*.

Libert, Timothy (March, 2015). Privacy Implications of Health Information Seeking on the Web. *Communications of the Association for Computing Machinery*.

Libert, Timothy (October, 2015). Exposing the Hidden Web: Third-Party HTTP Requests On One Million Websites. *International Journal of Communication*

Libert, Timothy; Grande, David, MD, MPA; Asch, David A. MD (November, 2015). What Web Browsing Reveals About Your Health. *The BMJ (British Medical Journal)*.

In Review

Libert, Timothy; Binns, Reuben (2018). Good News for People Who Love Bad News: Privacy, Trust, and Security Implications of Third-Party Content on U.S. News Websites

Libert, Timothy; Mai, Bo (2018). Web Tracking with Chinese Characteristics: A Critical Perspective on the Online Surveillance Market in China.

Maris, Elena; Libert, Timothy; Henrichsen, Jennifer (2018). Porn, Privacy and the Vulnerable: The Implications of Third-Party Tracking on Porn Websites.

Editorial

Libert, Timothy; Repnikova, Maria (2015). Google is returning to China? It never really left. *The Guardian*.

Libert, Timothy; Pickard, Victor (2015). Think you're reading the news for free? New research shows you're likely paying with your privacy. *The Conversation (Republished in Newsweek & Fortune)*.

Whitepapers

Libert, Timothy; Graves, Lucas; Nielsen, Rasmus Kleis (2018). Changes in Third-Party Content on European News Websites after GDPR. *Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, University of Oxford*.

Libert, Timothy; Nielsen, Rasmus Kleis (2018). Third-Party Web Content on EU News Sites: Potential Challenges and Paths to Privacy Improvement. *Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, University of Oxford*.

Open Technology Institute. Health Privacy Online: Patients at Risk. *Comment for Submission to Federal Trade Commission*.

Book Chapters

Media Activism in the Digital Age. Routledge, 2017. *Introduction to Section II: Policy Interventions*

Multimedia

Privacy Implications of Health Information Seeking on the Web (Video)
 Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OqW8erWi1Wo>

Software

webXray, GNU Public License, 2015.
 Project Page: <http://webxray.org>
 GitHub: <https://github.com/timlib/webxray>

Expert Witness

WINSTON SMITH, et al. v. FACEBOOK, INC., et al. *United States District Court, Northern District of California, 2016.*

Invited Lectures

Netzpolitische Abend, C-Base, Berlin, 2016
Web Scale Analysis of Third-Party Tracking with webXray: Techniques and Findings

School of Public Policy, Central European University, 2015
Web Tracking with Chinese Characteristics

Center for Media, Data, and Society, Central European University, 2015
Web Tracking with Chinese Characteristics

University of Oxford, 2015
Web Tracking with Chinese Characteristics

University of Pennsylvania, 2015
Ranking Digital Rights

University of Pennsylvania, 2014, 2015
Internet Censorship in China

University of Pennsylvania, 2013, 2014
The National Security Agency in Context.

University of Pennsylvania, 2012, 2013
Privacy Risks for Online Activists

Conference and Seminar Presentations

Schloss Dagstuhl: Online Privacy and Web Transparency, 2017
Surveillance as a Regulatory Model

Hackers on Planet Earth (HOPE), 2016
Deconstructing Ad Networks for Fun and Profit

International Communications Association, 2016
The Logic of Connective Surveillance

Princeton Center for Information Technology Policy / University of Vienna Media Innovation Lab Doctoral Workshop, 2016
Web-Scale Regulatory Failure: An Empirical Examination of Self-Regulation and Violations of Contextual Integrity on the Web

Computers Privacy and Data Protection, 2016

The Logic of Connective Surveillance

The Empiricist's Challenge: Asking Meaningful Questions in the Age of Big Data, Mannheimer Zentrum für Europäische Sozialforschung (MZES), 2015

Web Tracking with Chinese Characteristics

International Communications Association, 2015

Web Tracking with Chinese Characteristics

Union for Democratic Communication, 2015

The Logic of Connective Surveillance

RightsCon Southeast Asia, 2015

Smartphones and Human Rights: Developing Evaluation Criteria for Complex Systems

Global Implications of Mobile Ubiquity: Research, Culture, and Policy, 2014

Ranking Digital Rights: A Framework for Evaluating Human Rights in a Mobile Context

Chinese Internet Research Conference, 2014

Web Tracking with Chinese Characteristics: A Critical Perspective on the Emerging Online Surveillance Market in China

International Communications Association, Data and Discrimination: Converting Critical Concerns into Productive Inquiry, 2014

Privacy Implications of Health Information Seeking on the Web

RightsCon Silicon Valley, 2014

Holding Companies Accountable On Free Expression And Privacy, Group Participant

New York University Neil Postman Graduate Conference, 2014

Exposing the Invisible Web: An Analysis of Corporate-Sponsored Data Collection on One Million Websites

International Open Access Week, University of Pennsylvania Libraries, 2013

Civic Hacking: Creating an Open Government through Technology, Invited Respondent

Selected Press

Television and Radio

2017

Deutschlandfunk (Germany)

Und sie wissen, was du tust

2015

Good Morning America

Online Medical Searches May Be Sold

All Things Considered, National Public Radio

Online Health Searches Aren't Always Confidential, Interview with Robert Siegel

ABC 6 Television News, Philadelphia

Your Health Info May Be Bought and Sold Online

WHYY Public Radio, Philadelphia

Who gets access to the data my Apple Watch collects?

WHYY Public Radio, Philadelphia

Most health information web pages are tracked, Penn study finds

Print and Web

2018

CBC News (Canada)

Think twice before consulting Dr. Google, researchers say

2017

Canadian Bar Association, National Magazine

The \$4 trillion question, How can we protect online privacy without stifling innovation?

2016

Urgente 24 (Argentina)

Una vergüenza que intereses y burocracia frenen la Historia Clínica Electrónica en hospitales argentinos

Editor & Publisher

Shoptalk: Why Journalists Need to Stand Up for Reader Privacy

Netzpolitik (Germany)

Tracking durch Drittanbieter auf einer Million Webseiten

Vice

What Happens to the Data Collected On Us While We Sleep

2015

20 Minutes (France)

Les recherches Web sur des problèmes médicaux ne sont pas si privées que ça

20 Minutes (France)

Web: Neuf sites sur dix partageraient vos données personnelles

ADSL Zone (Spain)

9 de cada 10 webs envían tus datos a terceros

Advertising Age

How Google's Alphabet Reorg Could Affect Its Health Data

Al-Jazeera America

The CDC knows what ails you — and now, so do many others

Agence Science-Press (Canada)

Internet : vous êtes encore plus suivi que vous ne le pensez

AuthomatiseringGids (Netherlands)

Op internet kijken minstens 5 partijen mee wat je uitspookt

Bangor Daily News

There's no doctor-patient confidentiality on the Internet

Boy Genius Report

It's almost impossible to stop Google and Facebook from knowing about your health-related searches

Business Standard (India)

Searching medical info online poses privacy risk

Cambodian Times

Online health details prone to risk of abuse

CBS Washington, DC

Study: 'Invisible Web' Threatens Health Privacy

CIO

Patients must know the perils of online medical research

City A.M. (UK)

Think you're not being tracked online? Our browsing habits are captured and leaked by nine out of 10

major websites

Consumer Affairs

Looking up medical info on the web poses a privacy risk

elPeriódico (Spain)

Los datos de actividad carecen de una protección específica

Fast Company

The Latest Privacy Risk? Looking Up Medical and Drug Information Online

Gear & Style Cheat Sheet

5 Things You Should Never Search on Google

HIV Plus Magazine

Your Anonymous Online Health Searches Are Apparently Not So Anonymous

iHealthBeat

Many Health-Related Web Pages Share User Data With Third Parties

Ilta-Sanomat (Finland)

Pornohistoriasi saattaa paljastua - selaimen yksityistila ei pelasta

IT Forum 365 (Brazil)

Nove de dez sites liberam dados de usuários para terceiros

Komando

Big business is tracking your online symptom searches

La Nacion (Argentina)

La historia clínica, última frontera de la privacidad

La Nacion (Argentina)

88% de los sitios web más populares filtran datos a terceros

LeVif (Belgium)

Au moins 5 ‘voyeurs’ regardent ce que vous faites sur internet

Lifehacker

Why You Probably Shouldn't Look Up Health Symptoms Online

Medical Marketing & Media

Vice: Health search queries are being tracked

MNO (Hungary)

Adatterrorizmus a digitális küzdőtéren

Naked Security

How nine out of ten healthcare pages leak private data

NBC News

Cyber Monday: What Happens to Your Data When You Shop Online?

NDTV (India)

90 Percent of Websites Leak User Data to Third Parties: Study

PC Magazine (Greek Edition)

9 out of 10 website handing your data (Headline Translated)

R & D Magazine

Online Tracking: A Plight of the Modern Age?

Repubblica (Italy)

Scopre di avere un cancro, su Facebook trova la pubblicità delle pompe funebri: “Scandaloso”

Rizopoulos Post (Greece)

Why Facebook is threatened with a fine of EUR 250,000 per day (Headline Translated)

San Jose Mercury News

Health searches: Be careful who you tell about those cold sores

SC Magazine

Report: Majority of health-related websites leak data to third parties

Science 2.0

You're Being Tracked Online More Than You Realize.

Shape Magazine

How Safe Are Your Electronic Medical Records?

Šibenski portal (Croatia)

POGLEDAJTE ZAŠTO: Ovih pet stvari nikako nemojte pretraživati na internetu

Sunday Observer (Sri Lanka)

Health information at serious risk of abuse

Sympatico (Canada)

Internet : vous êtes encore plus suivis que vous ne le pensez

Techlicious

Third-Party Advertisers Are Spying on Your Medical Searches

Techsocal (Greece)

Research shows that 9 out of 10 sites make data leakage to third parties (Headline Translated)

Tech-WD (Saudi Arabia)

Study: 90 % of websites leak your data to third parties without your knowledge - the world of technology (Headline Translated)

Tech Republic

Online tracking by news organizations is excessive, say researchers

The Hill

Overnight Cybersecurity

The Hindu (India)

The death of privacy

The News Lens (Taiwan)

90% of sites provided tracker quietly put your information with third parties (Headline Translated)

The Next Web

Research reveals 9 of 10 websites leak user data to third parties

The Statesman (India)

Online health details prone to risk of abuse

The Tribune (India)

Searching medical info online poses privacy risk

Time/Money Magazine

Your Embarrassing Online Searches About Health Problems Aren't Private

Times of India

Latest privacy threat: Looking for health information online

Times of India

Facebook, Google may be leaking your data: Study

Version2 (Denmark)

Google overvåger brugere på 80 pct. af alle websites og ignorerer 'Do Not Track'-ønsker

Vice

Looking Up Symptoms Online? These Companies Are Tracking You

Vice

Nine Out of Ten of the Internet's Top Websites Are Leaking Your Data

Vice

Your Porn Is Watching You

Wired

Security News This Week: 9 Out of 10 Websites Leak Your Data to Third Parties

Wired (Italian Edition)

Nove siti su dieci distribuiscono dati a insaputa degli utenti

Xataka

Cuando buscas sobre una enfermedad, es muy probable que alguien esté recolectando esos datos

ZOL.com (China)

Survey: 90 % site visitor information will be disclosed to third parties (Headline Translated)

2014

Fast Company

The London Underground Has Its Own Internet Of Things

2011

Al-Jazeera

Hactivism for Syria

The Atlantic

Study Finds Broad Support for Online Vigilantism (In Some Cases)

Fast Company

Occupy Sites Help Cops, Corps Track Occupiers

Service

Student Representative, Information Technology Committee, 2014-2015

Filmography

Citizenfour (2014)

Audience Member, Uncredited

Miscellaneous

Professional Memberships:

Association for Computing Machinery

Association of Internet Researchers

International Communications Association

Programming Languages (Fluent):

CSS, HTML, Javascript, L^AT_EX, PERL, PHP, Python, Regular Expressions, Shell Scripting, SQL, XML.