

Event Report 2

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For Event Report 2, I came across the Ted Talk for, “Why Privacy Matters”, with the presenter Glenn Greenwald. Our perception of privacy on the internet was changed when Edward Snowden brought up the news that we are all being monitored online and nothing we do is private. Which brings up the question of, “Well I have nothing to hide, why should I care “, this comes with the belief only bad guys do bad things? And they should be the only ones concerned with being monitored online. That doesn’t seem to be the case as everyone has a realm of privacy they would like to protect. Seeking out privacy should not be deemed as a bad thing and should not always mean you are hiding something from the government or others.

Glenn Greenwald begins with the example of being surveillance by another person doing something shameful and how this person would only do this activity if no one else is watching. Which brings upon the question of why privacy matters in the first place, especially in the online world. We once thought that it was a safe private place but after Edward Snowden leaked information that we are all always being watched online it brought about many questions, primarily ones of why it should matter if nothing bad is being done. For example was said by (Greenwald,2014), “Bad people are those who plot terrorist attacks or who engage in criminality and therefore have reasons to hide what they are doing, have reasons to care about their privacy”, “But by contrast, good people are people who go to work , come home , raise their children watch television”, those are the people who do not have to fear the government invading their

privacy . It's the mindset that people have on this issue and that's not true, he has gone ahead and disproven this as he has asked many people to write down their account information and passwords, not only to their work emails and such but their most intimate accounts, and they never provide that information. Kinda of shows privacy is something we hold dear to us.

Furthermore, this speaker presented this issue in an understandable way and shows his point of view of why everyone should be rather concerned about this issue as it is applicable to everyone. He pointed out that human behavior changes drastically as soon as an individual finds out they are being watched and become more compliant with whatever rules/regulations that are in place. Surveillance imposes dangers on society and creates people that do not challenge power, which can become an issue in the future.

Overall, Glenn Greenwald has presented good points on why we should all be informed about why we should care about our privacy regardless of if we were good or bad people as we live in a day and age where there are constant cyber-attacks, and are aware that we are unfortunately being surveillance online.

References

- [Glenn Greenwald]. (2014, October 1). Why Privacy Matters [Video]. Ted Global.

https://www.ted.com/talks/glenn_greenwald_why_privacy_matters/transcript