

# Good Security and Privacy Things

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# We Know the Bad Side

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- We know bad things happen on the Internet  
(I caught my first hackers around 1971)
- We know there are lots of ways we lose privacy
- But -- the Internet offers ways options to *improve* privacy and security

A T-shirt for sale in one small US town has a caption that reads: “Small Town (def) a place where you don't have to use your turn signals because everyone knows where you are going.”

*Carl Ellison et al, 1998*

# Privacy

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- Access to information
  - ▶ Not easily available in small towns?
- Private purchasing
  - ▶ It's harder to hide in the physical world
  - ▶ Ubiquitous cameras and license plate readers make that worse

# Anonymity and Pseudonymity

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- Screen names
- Multiple personnas
- Onion routing

# Free Speech

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- The freedom to speak anonymously or pseudonymously
- The ability to speak in a different community
- Freedom of association
- Censoring the Internet is hard

# Information Security

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- It's much easier to encrypt files than pieces of paper
- It's much easier to create remote backups of vital data
- It's much easier to protect a file against tampering

# Physical Security

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- Home monitoring cameras
- Remote control of lights and appliances -- make a vacant house seem occupied
- The *primary* use of surveillance cameras is sometimes beneficial, even if only to solve a crime rather than deter it



# But...

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- Mandatory registration laws
- Court orders to unmask pseudonyms
- Data retention laws
- Hackers make home cameras risky
- Increasing use of Internet tracking technology
- Do the threats and dangers outweigh the good?