Anonymity in the cyber space in Japan

Hamada Tadahisa
Chair, Japan Computer Access for Empowerment

What is anonymity?
- undetectability
- untraceability
- unaccountability

We are losing our anonymity

In real space
- not an anonymous place
- not a private place

In cyber space
- not a private place
- not an anonymous place

In both space
- not a private place
- not an anonymous place

Do we need anonymity?
- for expression management
- for protecting individual rights
- for culture

Proposals for privacy
- information matching
- information feedback
- legal awareness
- establishment of privacy complaint system
- public awareness
- control of personal information
- restriction of cyber crime society networks
Anonymity in the cyber space in Japan

Hamada Tadahisa
Chair, Japan Computer Access for Empowerment

What is anonymity?
- untraceability
- non-bondability
- unaccountability

We are losing our anonymity

In real space
- disclosure risks
- misuse of information
- unaccountability

In cyber space
- non-traceability
- non-bondability
- non-accountability

In both space
- disclosure risks
- non-traceability
- non-bondability
- unaccountability

Do we need anonymity?
- for expressive management
- for privacy protection
- for personal freedom
- for protection of personal information
- for control of information

Proposals for privacy
- appropriate educating
- provision of information
- education on the Internet
- establishment of privacy
- communication privacy
- establishment of personal information
- protection of personal information
- control of cyber crime

Anonymous systems
- protection of personal information
- control of cyber crime
- establishment of privacy
- communication privacy
- establishment of personal information
- protection of personal information
- control of cyber crime
- establishment of privacy
- communication privacy
- establishment of personal information
- protection of personal information
- control of cyber crime
Background

early 1980s ~ dawn of cyber culture in Japan
  grassroots PC communication
    • anonymous communication
    • particularly popular with minorities
    • ex. BBS EON was set up by transgender community

1990s ~ diffusion of PC communication culture into the Internet
  • 1992: the first commercial Internet provider
  • 1996: number of Internet users outstripped PC communications
  • PC communication culture diffused into the Internet in Japan
  • many anonymous BBS such as 2channel were launched

discussion about anonymous vs. autonomous
  • “anonymity is a hotbed of crimes”
  • “communication between anonymous name and real name is unequal”
  • “anonymity is necessary for whistleblowers”
early 1980s ~ dawn of cyber culture in Japan

grassroots PC communication

- anonymous communication
- particularly popular with minorities
- ex. BBS EON was set up by transgender community
1990s ~ diffusion of PC communication culture into the Internet

- 1992: the first commercial Internet provider
- 1996: number of Internet users outstripped PC communications
- PC communication culture diffused into the Internet in Japan
- many anonymous BBS such as 2channel were launched
discussion about anonymous vs. autonomous

- "anonymity is a hotbed of crimes"
- "communication between anonymous name and real name is unequal"
- "anonymity is necessary for whistleblowers"
We are losing our anonymity

In real space

In cyber space
- Control of injurious access (remedies, 2012)
- Criminalization of downloading copyrighted material (2012)
- Problem: Decrease for user identification will be increased

In both spaces
In real space

Mutual usability of IC card for transportation

- Electronic rail and bus cards (Suica etc.) became able to be used across the country starting March 23, 2013 (also in some taxis and ships)
- Functions of electronic money, credit card, and ID card for companies and schools
- Some mobility phones can be used for IC card for transportation using Java technology
- East Japan Railway Co. began selling records of the use of Suica cards without notifying the cardholders in July 2013

surveillance camera (CCTV)

- 3.5 million cameras in Japan
- No criteria in installing CCTV
- Does not achieve the aim of preventing crime
- Balance between privacy and security
Mutual usability of IC card for transportation

• Electronic rail and bus cards (Suica etc.) became able to be used across the country starting March 23, 2013 (also in some taxis and ships)
• Functions of electronic money, credit card, and ID card for companies and schools
• Some mobile phones can be used for IC card for transportation using Java technology
• East Japan Railway Co. began selling records of the use of Suica cards without notifying the cardholders in July, 2013
surveillance camera (CCTV)

- 3.5 million cameras in Japan
- no criteria in installing CCTV
- does not achieve the aim of preventing crime
- balance between privacy and security
In cyber space

- Control law of injustice access (revised 2012)
- Criminalization of downloading copyrighted material (2012)
- Problem: Demand for user identification will be increased
• Control law of injustice access (revised 2012)
• Criminalization of downloading copyrighted material (2012)
• Problem: Demand for user identification will be increased
In both spaces

Lifelog

- Behavioral Targeting Advertisement (BTA)

Non-antragsdelikitation of copyright (under discussion)

- Antragsdelikt: a category of offense which cannot be prosecuted without a complaint by the victim. In Japanese, shihokuzai, in Korean, chinggye
- demanded again by TPP

Common number law
May 24, 2013

every resident, including foreigners, to be assigned a personal identification number (will take effect starting in January 2016)

Secret protection bill
(will be discussed in the Diet in this fall)

Background
- Problems
- Solution
- Analysis
- Conclusion
Lifelog

• Behavioral Targeting Advertisement (BTA)
non-antragsdeliktization of copyright (under discussion)

- Antragsdelikt: a category of offense which cannot be prosecuted without a complaint by the victim. In Japanese, shinkokuzai, in Korean, chingojoe
- demanded again by TPP
common number law
May 24, 2013

every resident, including foreigners, to be assigned a personal identification number (will take effect starting in January 2016)
Secret protection bill (will be discussed in the Diet in this fall)

Background
- 1945: after defeat in the World War II, Japan dismantled the secret protection law under pacifism.
- 1950s - 1970s: some defense secret protection laws were adjusted under Japan US security treaty.
- 1985: state security bill did not pass by strong opposition from media and citizens.
- 2001: 9/11 catalyzed broad and solid protection for defense secret.
- 2013: secret protection bill are going to be laid in this fall, but mass media don't play up.

Problems
- The scope of specific secrets is ambiguous.
- Heads of administrative organizations designate certain information as specific secrets. They might issue designation in rapid succession.
- They could hide safety or radiation information. The government can arbitrarily designate information to keep it from the public.
- Anyone who asks central government employees to offer specific secrets could be subject to punishment on the grounds that they abetted the leakage of secrets.
Background

• 1945: after defeat in the World War II, Japan dismantled the secret protection law under pacifism
• 1950s - 1970s: some defense secret protection laws were adjusted under Japan US security treaty
• 1985: state security bill did not pass by strong opposition from media and citizens
• 2001: 9.11 catalyzed broad and solid protection for defense secret
• 2013: secret protection bill are going to be laid in this fall, but mass media don't play up.
Problems

- The scope of specific secrets is ambiguous
- Heads of administrative organizations designate certain information as specific secrets. They might issue designation in rapid succession.
- They could hide safety or radiation information. The government can arbitrarily designate information to keep it from the public
- anyone who asks central government employees to offer specific secrets could be subject to punishment on the grounds that they abetted the leakage of secrets.
What is anonymity?

- unlinkability
- unobservability
- untraceability
- unreachability

Is anonymity a premise for performing an evil deed on the Internet?
Do we need anonymity?

- for impression management (we have rights to decide whom we tell our secret)
- a state of privacy (Westin, 1968) (individual's right to control the circulation of information relating to oneself)
Proposals for privacy

- information notifying system about how personal information is collected, kept, used, and provided
- discussion about re-examine the secrets protection bill & the common number law
- establishment of privacy commissioner system, a specialized independent organization, and protection of whistle-blowing
- consolidation of global civil society network
Anonymity in the cyber space in Japan
Hamada Tadahisa
Chair, Japan Computer Access for Empowerment