



GeneSwab™ Home Paternity Testing

Four (4) Easy Steps ...

- 1) Order Home DNA Kit
- 2) Receive Kit in the Mail
- 3) Collect Cheek Cells
- 4) Send to the Lab

## Torturing Open Government Systems for Fun, Profit and Time Travel

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DEF CON 21
Las Vegas, NV

August 1-4, 2013



## Disclaimers

- These views are mine, not my employer's, my publisher's, my cat's etc.
- I DO LIKE OPEN DATA! I just want to see it done right.
- Some of the vulnerabilities shown have been fixed/changed/modified. They are still instructive as cautionary tales.
- More results will appear in a forthcoming book from OR Books and on my blog decreeping.wordpress.com

## The Six Ws of Open Data

- What is Open Data?
- Who has Open Data?
- Why is Open Data?
- Where is Open Data?
- When is Open Data?
- Worrisome aspects of Open Data



## What is the Open Data Movement?

- Initiative by many governments to make their data openly available
- Driven by:
  - Calls for transparency ("it's the taxpayers money")
  - Sincere desire for innovation ("they'll come up with some great uses for our data at that Hackathon")
  - Fear ("Wikileaks is going to get this anyway; it looks better if we release it")
  - Cheapness ("we don't have to pay the developers")
  - Positive sentiments about open source, transparency, "data wants to be free"



## Some notable examples

- NYC Datamine
- Philadelphia OpenDataPhilly
- Open Data Framework (Vancouver, Edmonton, Toronto and Ottawa)
- Open Data Challenge (EU)
- Direct input systems like seeclickfix.com



## **NYC Datamine**

- On October 6, 2009 NYC released, with great fanfare, 103 municipal data sets
- One listed 1100 women's organizations in the city
- Release contained their private email address, secret question like "favorite pet" and answer like "fluffy"



Problem #1: Neglecting to read and redact data sets before releasing!

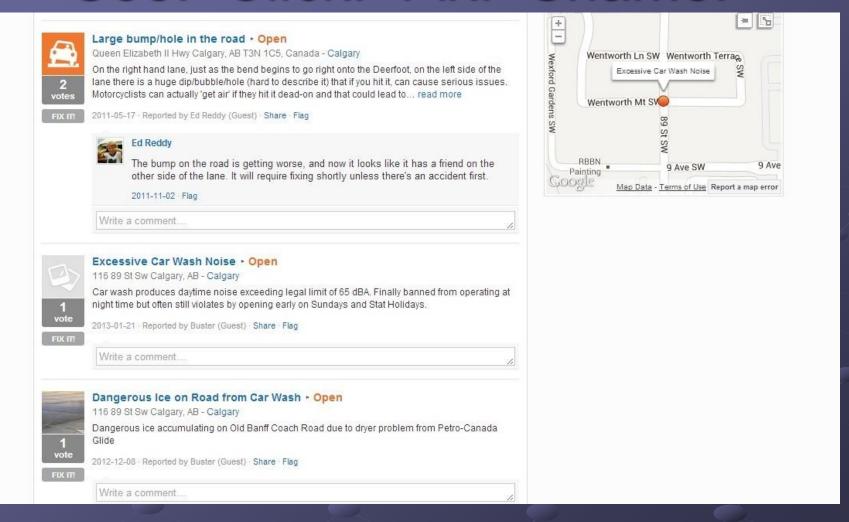
# Toronto's 311 Customer Requests System

- 25% are about garbage/recycling pickup
- Some are serious, personal etc.
- Location is supposed to be reported as partial postal code e.g. M4Vxxx, but e.g. WOLFE AVE & DANFORTH RD
- If there are enough of these slip ups, combined with Google maps, etc. they can tell a story...



Problem #2: Sloppy, lazy data entry

## See. Click. Fix. Shame.





# When you offer a 20,000 € prize, things happen!



What was it?

What did people say about it?

Who were the winners?

Who were the judges?

Who was behind it?

Where can I find open data?

The Open Data Challenge is over!



If you'd like to keep in touch with other people interested in **open data**, you can join the **open-government** and **euopendata** mailing lists or follow the **#opendata** hashtag on Twitter.



## Who Won?



PublicData.eu beta — Europe's Public Data

Ideas

Login Register

Groups

Apps

About

Find datasets

### ZNasichDani / From Our Taxes

View

#### Link

http://znasichdani.sk/l?l=en

#### Developer

Fair-play Alliance and VORSR.sk

#### License

Closed

### Tags

power networks transparency managers politicians ZNasichDani.sk uncovers who are influential persons (owners, managers, statutories) standing behind companies successful in securing contracts with the state, thus helping uncover conflicts of interest; it also shows how large are the sums of contracts obtained in this way.







Source: www.fair-play.sk

# Who Wouldn't Agree with Such a Wonderful Application?

### Open Data Challenge Winner Ordered To Remove Certain Data

Source: spectator.sme.sk

A court has ordered Slovak NGO Fair-Play Alliance to take down data from their award winning open data application.

Bratislava, 28 June 2011

(by Ton Zijlstra)

The Slovak NGO Fair-Play Alliance , a transparency watch dog organisation, won the Open Data Challenge with their application Znasichdani.sk during the Digital Agenda Assembly in Brussels on June 16th.

A Slovak judge has now ordered the NGO to take down specific data from their winning application.

The application combines two public registers. The overview of all work contracted by the state, and the company register are combined to show what the total volume of work is that various people, through the businesses they represent or own, do for public bodies.

According to a <u>news article in the Slovak Spectator</u> the statutory representative, Jarmila Povazanova, of the Strabag construction company demanded in court that the total value of all public contracts of companies Povazanova represents be removed from the site. The Bratislava II district court ordered the NGO to remove that information. Director Zuzana



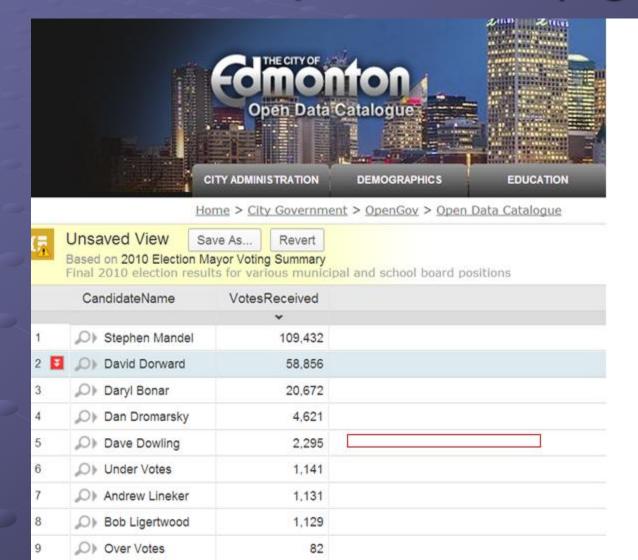
## A little technical aside

- This thing runs off multiple open databases all maintained by the Slovak government
- The Fair-Play Alliance has read only access
- How are they supposed to "take down specific data" that they don't control?
- Fair-Play Alliance has appealed the ruling and is still in operation.

Problem #4: Laws, policies and judges lag behind technology



## Of Course, Election Results Should be Open Data (right?)





## Did My Wife Vote for Me?

City	Ward 11 City Wide Hospital	9	F	FALSE	1	Daryl Bonar	1
City	Ward 11 City Wide Hospital	9	F	FALSE	2	David Dorward	5
City	Ward 11 City Wide Hospital	9	F	FALSE	3	Dave Dowling	0
City	Ward 11 City Wide Hospital	9	F	FALSE	4	Dan Dromarsky	0
City	Ward 11 City Wide Hospital	9	F	FALSE	5	Bob Ligertwood	0

Problem #5: Inference from Small Numbers



# Philadelphia's OpenDataPhilly.org

- Includes Campaign Finance Records, which are generally required to be disclosed.
- "Results are freely viewable and printable but not available for download" and "empty searches take too long"
- It wasn't long until I had me some .csv files to play with

## What We Can Learn

- Full "home" address provided. Tied to tax receipt so probably chosen with care
- I'm not sure what percentage of people try to protect their address, but in the US 'Nationally, 27.6% of households have unlisted (telephone) numbers. In many cities the unlisted rate is over 50%.'
- Source: <a href="http://www.busreslab.com/index.php/articles-and-stories/research-tips/the-science-of-sampling-telephone-samples/">http://www.busreslab.com/index.php/articles-and-stories/research-tips/the-science-of-sampling-telephone-samples/</a>



People often pay for privacy, need it for personal for business, reasons, etc.

# Campaign Finance Disclosure Rules Date Back to 1970s

 US Federal Elections Commission files go back to 1980. Just a reminder of what we had for data mining technology back then:





Source: Wikimedia Commons

# There are some rather interesting addresses in the file

SHAWN KIRWIN	1719 SPRING GARDEN STREET Philadelphia, PA 19130-3915	\$350.50	Jan 25, 2013	International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 98 Committee on Political Education
HABIB WALEED	4959 N FRANKLIN STREET PHILADELPHIA, PA 19123-1326	\$5.00	Apr 15, 2011	International Union of Painters and Allied Trades Political Action Together Political Committee
PAUL E PROIETTO	691 MILLBROOK RD. RIVER EDGE, NJ 07661-1453	\$16.36	Feb 25, 2011	International Union of Painters and Allied Trades Political Action Together Political Committee
Ronald Rivest	41 Academy Street Arlington, MA 02476	\$200.00	May 4, 2011	Friends of Stephanie Singer



## Hmm, is that THE Ron Rivest?



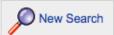


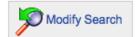
# Search for Smith in 2010 Political Contribution Records



Document Search

Logout public







You searched for: Year = 2010 and approximate search in ContributorID for Smith and =CFR - Schedule I - Part A - Contributions Received From Political Committees (\$50.01 \$250.00), CFR - Schedule I - Part B - All Other Contributions (\$50.01 - \$250.00), CFR - Schedule I - Part C - Contributions Received From Political Committees (Over \$250.00), Schedule I - Part D - All Other Contributions (Over \$250.00), CFR - Schedule II - Part F - In-Kind Contributions Received (Value of \$50.00), CFR - Schedule II - Part G - In-Kind Contributions Received (Value Over \$250.00)

#### Download Results as CSV

Contribution By	Address	Amount	Date	Recipient
D. Smith	Two Liberty Place 1601 Chestnut St Philadelphia, PA 19192	\$6.83	May 13, 2010	CIGNA Corporation Political Action Committee
Joseph Smith	1719 Spring Garden Street Philadelphia, PA 19130	\$101.20	Nov 25, 2009	Local Union #98 IBEW COPE
D SMITH	1534 E 80TH ST LOS ANGELES, CA 90001-3404	\$40.00	Apr 22, 2010	Communication Workers of America
LETITIA SMITH	16368 KENSINGTON PLACE MORENO VALLEY, CA 92551-0000	\$10.00	Apr 26, 2010	Communication Workers of America
Mark Smith	Two Liberty Place 1601 Chestnut St Philadelphia, PA	\$5.00	Aug 19,	CIGNA Corporation Political Action Committee

# Why Include Address? Laziness? Disambiguation?

- The donor files for 2010 were downloaded from OpenDataPhilly as .CSV files, imported into Microsoft Excel and sorted by the contributor name field.
- "Potential Duplicates" were defined as additional names that were shown identically as a name in the database, but with a different address.



# Results from most common US names

• Name Number of Entries "Dups"

Smith 588

Johnson 426

Williams 400

Conclusion: Having home address didn't do a lot of good in resolving possible duplicates.



# Are those addresses real home addresses?

- A significant number of contributors (86/588 of Smith, 63/426 of Johnson, 77/400 of Williams) listed the same address, 1719 Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, PA., 19130.
- Viewing this location on Google Maps Streetview shows that it is the office of the I.B.E.W. Electricians Union.











Home

Who We Are

Why Union?

Education

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Departments

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Site Map

### **Departments - Contact Us**

To contact us via Email, please click here.

### IBEW Local 98 Business Office All Divisions

1701 Spring Garden Street Philadelphia, PA 19130

Phone: 215-563-5592 Fax: 215-561-2168



### Financial Office & Electrical Apprentice Training

1719 Spring Garden Street Philadelphia, PA 19130

Financial Office Phone: 215-563-8991 Fax: 215-563-9149

Apprentice Training Phone: 215-567-6405 Fax: 215-567-6477





## Problemas?

- #6 Under-estimating the desire and ability of someone to torture the database for info
- #7 Inconsistent data. Providing contributor's "address" is a legal requirement but some people use non-home, e.g. union office
- #8 The "why" e.g. of requiring "address" needs to be re-examined in the light of new "hows" -- tools like mapping APIs, big data, jigsawing of public and private databases

This means we'll be flying to different cities because they'll give to tie into their networks. It will be both international carriers ada and transporter carriers that we'll be able to feed into. e of an exciting year in the sense that all of our old airplanes 200) are gone, and we have the newest fleet in Canada—in fact

This is an old (6 years ago) jigsawing experiment I did... The Report on Busines there's a hockey gan Some things have gotten better, many have gotten worse!certainly nice to be a vourself

watch the Flames pl not a great TV watc any of the education programs, like the D Channel, are always interesting. What is the key to WestJet's succes It's our commitme

What do you like to

live seatback TV?

I watch the hockey g

There's also a busine

on WestJet's

people, and they,

have a similar co to us. It's about a the interests of o with the compar interests of the aligning with the

people. And in created a treme

powerful custo

service culture



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WestJet

**Airlines** 

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it sort

### www.canada411.ca

	www.
Search: "beddoe, AB"	6 Total Listings
New search   Modify sear	<u>ch</u>
BEDDOE, C Calgary, AB T1X 1E1 (403) 255-2686	1 of 6 More information
Check out C Beddoe with Web Detective! Search School Yearbooks in Calgary AB Find Romance in Calgary at Date.ca	
BEDDOE, CLIVE  1. Ave SW  Calgary, AB T2V 0R2  (403) 255	2 of 6 More information
Check out Clive Beddoe with Web Detective! Search School Yearbooks in Calgary AB Find Romance in Calgary at Date.ca	
BEDDOE, J Calgary, AB T1X 1E1 (403) 521-2260	3 of 6 More information
Check out J Beddoe with Web Detective Search School Yearbooks in Calgary AB Find Romance in Calgary at Date ca	14 - S
BEDDOE, K & S Calgary, AB T1X 1E1 (403) 212-2352	4 of 6 More information
Check out K & S Beddoe with Web Detective! Search School Yearbooks in Calgary AB Find Romance in Calgary at Date.ca	
PEDDOE O	5 of 6

censored...phone number is still valid!

### City of Calgary Property Tax Assessment Site in 2007



Home | City Business

City Hall

City Living

City Transportation

My Pages

City Hall > Business Units > Assessment

#### ★ Assessment

- Assessment
- About Assessment
- 2006 Assessment Values - Quick Facts
- Related Contacts
- Contact Us
- Property Assessment
- Business Assessment
- Understanding your Assessment Notice
- Market Value
- 2006 Assessment Values
- Community
   Comparisons &
   Profiles

### Assessment Search

You may search all residential, multi-residential, and non-residential property types in The City of C

SEARCH BY MAP

Works best with Internet conne

Works best using cable modem or (A)DSL and using Microsoft IE or Netscape versions 4 and up.

Works best with Internet connection speed better and using Microsoft IE or Netscape up.

**SEARCH BY** 

**ADDRESS** 

You must know the exact address of property. For condominium propertie building address and a list of units w provided.

Assessment Information Last Updated: April 19, 2006



### Print Neighbourhood Map

Your property assessment is based on The City of Calgary's estimate of the market value December 31, 2005.

Roll number: 11\*

Property Location: . . AV SW

Property Assessment: 710,500

Assessment Class: Residential

Property Type: Land and Improvement

Property Use: Single Residential

Taxation Status: Taxable

Community Name: Kelvin Grove

Land Use Designation: RESIDENTIAL SINGLE-DETACHED DISTRICT

Parcel Area: 8,095 sq. ft. / 752 sq. m.

Building Description: House/2 Storey

Garage

Approx. Living Area above grade: 3,260 sq. ft. / 303 sq. m.

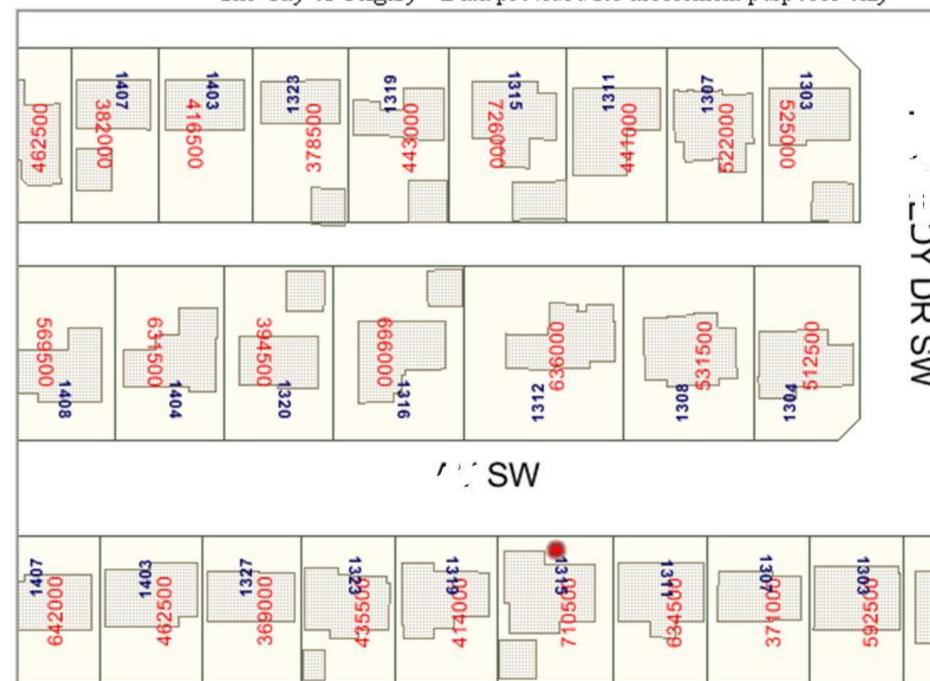
Finished Area below grade: Yes

Garage: Yes

Fireplace(s): Yes

Walkout Basement: No

The City of Calgary - Data provided for assessment purposes only



### Now "addressed" by a combination of data changes, technical and legal safeguards

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Problem #9: "Data Jigsawing" of public and private databases

## Don't get arrested in Florida





Sheriff Al Nienhuis

## HCSO Home 4 Explore HCSO 4 Hernando County Jail

Emergency Management

Traffic Information

Alert Bulletins

Crimestoppers Media Releases

CASE Partnership

Fraud Alerts

General Information

Public Records Search

Crime Statistics

Sexual Offender Info 4

Job Line

el ert Notification

### **About Hernando County Sheriff's Office**

Hernando County is located on the West coast of Central Florida. The Sheriff's Office provides law enforcement services to a population of approximately 173,000. This is an increase of nearly 330% since 1980, and Hernando continues to be regarded as one of the fastest growing counties in the United States.

This decade will bring new challenges to our county, but the commitment of the Hernando County Sheriff's Office will not change. We will continue to provide our community with professional, efficient law enforcement through well-trained employees, technology, crime prevention and a proactive approach to public safety.



### **Highlights**

- Click here for Info on how you can purchase t-shirts from the Mecklenburg Memorial Motorcycle Ride
- Run for New Beginnings Youth Shelter 5K Run/Walk
- Click here for more information about the Sheriff's Office proposed BUDGET for 2012
- Public Notice Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant
- HCSO Citizen Volunteer Corps
- Pictures from 2011 Law
   Enforcement Special Olympics
   Torch Run
- Hernando County Community

Records Returned = 30   Criteria Given : Between 2/6/2009 and 2/6/2009								
Report#:	ArrestDate:			Offense:	Arrest Location:	Latest Photo Available:		
2009-04928/1	02/08/2000 44-44		02/19/1961	831.02 - UTTERING FORGED	6242 CALIFORNIA ST			
2009-04923/1	02/06/2009 11:05 PM	WILBUR, WILLIAM LEO III	01/26/1941	88.231 - CONTEMPT COURT/CHILD SUPPORT	16160 APPENNINE DR			
2009-04913/1	02/06/2009 09:41 PM	LEDE, JEANETTE MICHELE	10/01/1981	322.34 - DRIVER'S WITH LICENSE REVOKED OR SUSPENDED	16425 SPRING HILL DR			
2009-04912/1	02/06/2009 09:41 PM	LEDE, JEANETTE MICHELE	10/01/1981	948.06 - VIOLATION OF PROBATION	16425 SPRING HILL DR			
2009-04909/1	02/06/2009 08:55 PM	ASKEW, ROBERT JARMAN	10/31/1959	784.03 - DOMESTIC BATTERY	16096 MEDRICK RD			



## What if this was Your Son?

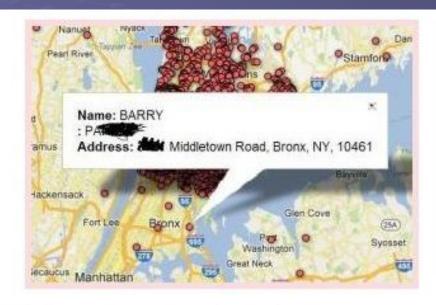
- 01/08/2010 04:00PM
- COU\*\*\*EY, BOBBY
- DOB 11/10/1997
- (age = 12 yrs. 2 mos)
- 810.02 BURGLARYDWELLING
- 18900 CORTEZ BV





Problem #10: Your face is your newest privacy risk as facial recognition goes mainstream.

# Data Journalism: Playing with Pistol Permits



Well, we could let it stop there — knowing this is a homeowner you shouldn't mess with.

But, let's face it, we have tools like Spokeo and Maltego. Even without paying a fee, Spokeo confirm's the poor fellow's street, gives us his middle initial (E), his approximate age (early 50s) and the value of the property he's defending with that handgun (\$457K). In all probability he's also the same person who owns a post office box in the same zipcode.



# Provocative Question: Should the Rich Have Less Privacy?

- People who run companies that get contracts, give contributions (especially large ones) have money
- In the US there is some sentiment that the SNAP Food Stamp program is abused
- In theory we could post that Ms. X bought junk food (allowed) and attempted to buy beer with her food stamps...but we don't.



# Indirect Risks of Government Disclosure

- You can't get it back. Companies like ChoicePoint Systems (now part of Lexis/Nexis) are grabbing and storing it
- New technologies (think DNA matching)
- "Genetic Genealogy"



## Ancestry.com

- 14 years of operation
- 6,000,000,000 records, mostly from public sources
- 20,000,000 family trees







### One simple DNA test. A world of discoveries.

Discover if you're part Scandinavian, West African, or maybe Native American. Meet a third cousin for the first time. When combined with 34 million family trees and 10 billion records on Ancestry.com, the new AncestryDNA creates the most comprehensive family history experience yet. It's family history, reinvented.

Now \$99

**Get AncestryDNA** 



Experience AncestryDNA

Discover your ethnicity

Find new relatives

How it works



It's more than a DNA test.

It's a dynamic new experience in family history.

## Or try the mobile service





Problem #11: Information about DNA is getting into our hands (e.g. from 23andme.com) and where else?

# Beware of Time Traveling Robots from the Future

### PRIVACY INTERNATIONAL



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**KEY RESOURCES** 

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**PRESS AND NEWS** 

**EPHR** 

PRIVASIA

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## PI FILES COMPLAINT ABOUT ONLINE DNA GENEALOGICAL TESTING FIRM

OCTOBER 22, 2007 BY PI

The leading online genealogical site Ancestry.com has embarked on a new service offering to test the DNA of its customers. This commercial service has been provided to assist genealogical tracing through familial lines.

However there are a number of troubling questions that Privacy International believes must be resolved before people can have confidence in this new service. Until these questions have been satisfactorily answered, we believe the service presents a number of substantial dangers for customers.

#### MORE LIKE THIS

- Genewatch campaign to 'Reclaim your DNA' from growing UK database
- PI Files complaint about expansion of CCTV on Toronto transit network
- Police are allowed to Keep DNA of Innocent, say UK Law Lords
- Key report damns UK National DNA Database Policy
- PI files complaint about Google Street
   View

https://www.privacyinternational.org/

### Tools

- An inquiring mind
- A motive (financial, ID theft, journalism, whistle blowing)
- Scripting languages
- ScraperWiki, collection of Ruby, Python,
   PHP scripts and plenty of ideas
- SQL Lite and other databases
- Hackathons



Problem #12: Data collected now, and in the past, can will be analyzed, cross-referenced, etc. in the future

# Even if it's always been public, now it's "super-public"

- Data that used to be public but buried in a dusty courtroom basement
- Now instantly available, searchable, storable
- "if it happened in the past ten years, it might be online. If it happened in the past five years, it's probably online. And if it happened in the past two years, it's almost certainly online."



(Source: Fertig and Thompson, Wild West 2.0, ISBN-13: 978-0-8144-1509-2)

## The Dirty Dozen (and growing)

- Inadvertent disclosure
- Sloppy data entry
- Malicious misinformation
- Law/Policy lag
- Inference from Small Numbers
- Assuming nobody will torture data



## The Dirty Dozen (and growing)

- Inconsistent data
- Ignoring new tools like mapping, visualization
- Data jigsawing
- Facial recognition
- Powerful data like genetic info in hands of the consumer
- Retroactive analysis with better tools, databases, etc.

## Some recommendations

- -Scan files carefully for direct PII that may be included;
- -Consider ways in which PII may be revealed indirectly;
- -Act promptly to remove database that are shown to reveal PII, and retain clear legal rights to do so;
- -Anticipate the cross-correlation of government data with other databases, public and private;
- -Provide a convenient mechanism for users to express privacy concerns and follow up;
- -Sponsor hackathons before the data is released to try to foresee unanticipated uses;
- Negotiate strong privacy protection on data provided to the private sector;

## Thank you!

- Dr. Tom Keenan, FCIPS
- keenan@ucalgary.ca

This image courtesy
Elise Pelchat
www.conceptsforall.uqam.ca

