



The Internet

Freedom of speech
Censorship



Today

- Freedom of Speech
- Censorship
- Spam
- Discussions

[Freedom in Cyberspace]

- 'The Internet is a common area, a public space like a village square
- It is the largest common area that has yet existed.
- Anything that anybody wishes to say can be heard by anyone else with access to the network.
- This world-wide community is as large and diverse as humanity itself. Therefore, no one community's standards can govern the type of speech permissible on the Internet. '

[Living Internet]

- This principle is also embedded in the Internet's **robust architecture**.
- In the words of John Gilmore, a founding member of the EFF (Electronic Frontier Foundation):
 - "The Internet interprets censorship as damage, and routes around it."

Electronic Frontier Foundation

Defending Freedom in the Digital World



Living Internet

Internet history, design, web, email... - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address <http://www.livinginternet.com/>

Living Internet

"An elegantly organized tour of the Internet -- both fun and informative -- a rare combination!" -- *Steve Crocker*

	History	Design	Use	Advanced	Keys	Security	Help	More
Internet	@	@	@	@	@	@	@	@
Web	@	@	@	@	@	@	@	@
Email	@	@	@	@	@	@	@	@
Usenet	@	@	@	@	@	@	@	@
IRC	@	@	@	@	@	@	@	@
MUD's	@	@	@	@	@	@	@	@
Lists	@	@	@	@	@	@	@	@

This site is a free, in-depth reference about the Internet, prepared to provide living perspective to this most technological of inventions. The site was written from 1996 to 1999, posted 7 January 2000, last updated 28 August 2006, includes 700-odd pages, receives more than 60,000 human visitors a month, and has received input from many of the [people that helped build the Internet](#). Enjoy!

[<- Previous](#) [^ Up](#) [Next ->](#)

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[Living Internet]

- Because of the Internet's robust design, it is impossible to completely block access to information except in very limited and controlled circumstances
- For instance: when blocking access to a specific site from a home computer, or when using a firewall to block certain sites from employees on a workplace network.

Source: 'Living Internet'

- http://livinginternet.com/i/ip_speech.htm

Freedom of Speech, Press, and Association on the Internet

- The Free Software Foundation supports the freedoms of speech, press, and association on the Internet.
- Save the Web is a movement dedicated to ensuring that the highest priority of Internet law in Europe is to protect individual Internet users' rights.

<http://www.gnu.org/philosophy/basic-freedoms.html>

CENTER FOR DEMOCRACY & TECHNOLOGY

- The Center for Democracy and Technology works to promote democratic values and constitutional liberties in the digital age.
- With expertise in law, technology, and policy, CDT seeks practical solutions to enhance free expression and privacy in global communications technologies.

Organizations that work for freedom in computer development and electronic communications

- openrevolt.org This site is devoted to providing information about the European Copyright Directive and similar legislation. This site concentrates on the two principal problems of the EUCD from a computer user's perspective: the "Takedown" Clause, which makes it easier for copyright holders to censor webpages on ISPs, and the Anti-Circumvention Clauses, which give legal protection to copy-protection measures, and in the process compromise public policy goals in copyright itself, human rights, competition policy and hinder academic research.
- OpenCores The OpenCores project exists to further the aims of the Open IP Core definition, which includes the following tenets:
 - Information on using the hardware must be available.
 - The design of the hardware must be available.
 - Design software for hardware must be available.
- chillingeffects.org Chilling Effects is a collection point for cease and desist notices concerning online activity -- we invite visitors to enter C&Ds they have received or sent. The website collects the C&Ds in a searchable database and hyperlinks them to explanations of the legal issues.

Organizations that work for freedom in computer development and electronic communications

- The League for Programming Freedom The League for Programming Freedom is an organization that opposes software patents and user interface copyrights.
- Free Protocols Foundation The Free Protocols Foundation (FPF) is an independent public forum, dedicated to the support of patent-free protocols.
- Electronic Frontier Foundation EFF, the Electronic Frontier Foundation, is a non-profit, non-partisan organization working in the public interest to protect fundamental civil liberties, including privacy and freedom of expression, in the arena of computers and the Internet.
- Electronic Privacy Information Center EPIC is a public interest research center in Washington, D.C. It was established in 1994 to focus public attention on emerging civil liberties issues and to protect privacy, the First Amendment, and constitutional values.

Organizations that work for freedom in computer development and electronic communications

- [Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility](#) CPSR is a public-interest alliance of computer scientists and others concerned about the impact of computer technology on society. We work to influence decisions regarding the development and use of computers because those decisions have far-reaching consequences and reflect our basic values and priorities.
- [American Civil Liberties Union](#) The American Civil Liberties Union is the nation's foremost advocate of individual rights -- litigating, legislating, and educating the public on a broad array of issues affecting individual freedom in the United States.
- [Global Internet Liberty Campaign](#) The GILC comprises of members from American Civil Liberties Union, the Electronic Privacy Information Center, Human Rights Watch, the Internet Society, Privacy International, the Association des Utilisateurs d'Internet, and other civil liberties and human rights organizations. They advocate the prohibition of censorship of on-line communication, and insist that on-line free expression should not be restricted by indirect means such as excessively restrictive governmental or private controls over computer hardware or software, telecommunications infrastructure, or other essential components of the Internet.

Discussion in Class

- **Page 147: No 27: The Library.**
 - Two groups – discuss what to do.

[Anonymity. How safe are you?]

- Remaining anonymous on the Internet helps secure your identity, and prevent it from getting into the wrong hands.
- The Internet can sometimes be complex when it comes to understanding one's own safety.
- Knowledge is the best weapon against the threat of being exploited.

[Discussion]

- What can be said **for and against being anonymous on the Internet?**
- In which situations should one not be able to hide ones' identity?

[Theft]

- Though there are many forms of theft on the Internet, the most common seen is **identity theft**.
- **Also**: Theft of ideas, projects, papers etc.
- **Issue**: How to protect yourself and your company
- **Responsibility as System Administrator**

[Pornography]

- Legal vs. illegal

[Neo Nazi sites]

- Assignment for next week
Is it right to suppress sites containing
Nazi propaganda?
Pros and cons.

[Spam]

- The spammer's business model:
sending spam is free, spammers don't
need to do target marketing.
- Spammers receive orders from
approx. 01% of the people who were
spammed and still make a profit.

[Spam, a public nuisance]

- Most Internet users know the annoyance and burden of spam, and suffer from it on a daily.
- **Can the problem be solved, and how?**
- What do **you** think?

[Discussion in class]

- **Page 146: No 19.** Would a fee for sending e-mail solve the problem of spam?
- Yes/No/Why

[Next week]

- Ethical theory.
- Prepare: Read chapter 2.