Student’s Name

Professor’s Name

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Annotated Bibliography

McLaughlin, J. (2015, November 17). U.S. Mass Surveillance Has No Record of Thwarting Large Terror Attacks, Regardless of Snowden Leaks. The Intercept, Retrieved February 15, 2018, from <https://theintercept.com/2015/11/17/u-s-mass-surveillance-has-no-record-of-thwarting-large-terror-attacks-regardless-of-snowden-leaks/>

This is an online article written by Jenna McLaughlin who is a reporter and blogger covering surveillance and national security. The article sheds light on the discussion of whether mass surveillance by the FBI and the NSA prevent domestic terrorism. McLaughlin sites a report released by the Department of Homeland Security in which they detail 64 arrests made in the 9 months before the Paris attacks. McLaughlin states that the “persons arrested on terror-related charges over the course of nine months were assessed to be inspired by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant or ISIS”. The author goes on to explain to the readers that of the arrests’ made only 5 of them were deemed as preemptive measures taken law enforcement.

The source is from an online journal called ‘The Intercept’ which describes their reporting as “adversarial journalism”. McLaughlin previously covered national security and foreign policy at Mother Jones magazine as an editorial fellow. ‘The Intercept’ are a less well known new site, but their strong fact-based reporting makes them a credible source. The article is rather biased but the perspective that the author chooses to report from does not change the validity of the facts she is reporting on.

Greenwald, G. (n.d.). Retrieved February 15, 2018, from <https://www.ted.com/talks/glenn_greenwald_why_privacy_matters>

This is an online film presented by TED talks. The speaker in this film is Glenn Greenwald; an American journalist and author, best known for his role in a series of reports published by The Guardian newspaper beginning in June 2013 that details the United States and British global surveillance programs. He discussed the importance of privacy in our increasingly technological world. He exposes the hypocrisy of those who spout rhetoric like such as, “If there’s nothing to hide why would you care that the government is watching?” Greenwald argues that those emphasize more government surveillance don’t believe that all their information should be accessible because they cover their emails and accounts with all sorts of passwords and privacy measures. Greenwald also believes that surveillance is especially dangerous because it strips people of their rights and creates mass conformity that the government uses as a method of control.

The sources is from TED Talks which is a very well known and highly reputable source. TED Talks focuses on spreading important information to the masses from distinguished highly vetted professionals. The wide array of topics covered by Ted Talks and the high standard they are

held to make them a credible source even if the source is biased.

Rainie, L. (2016, September 21). The state of privacy in post-Snowden America. Pew Research Center, Retrieved February 25, 2018, from <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2016/09/21/the-state-of-privacy-in-america/>

This is an online periodical providing factual contextual information. In Lee Rainie’s article, “The state of privacy in post-Snowden America” she proposes a snapshot of America’s view on privacy. This article was a brief collection of various surveys and public opinions that were collected in a post Snowden America. The issue of internet privacy and surveillance is one of the most polarizing issues in the United States according to the data presented in the Pew Research article. This is mainly due to the generational gap that comes from technology usage. According to the data many young-adults believe that privacy is a thing of the past, but they would still like to have a say on what the government can know about them and the extent to which the government can delve into one’s personal life. Rainie states that only “46% [of Americans] described themselves as “not very concerned” or “not at all concerned” about the surveillance”.

This source was found in the Pew Research center which is an online resource for finding fact-based credible sources. Pew Research is very credible since all the sources that one can find on the collection are vetted to make sure they are factual valid sources. My source is unbiased and completely statically based making it a credible source.

Dreyfus, B. (2013, June 7). What is the NSA's PRISM program? (FAQ). CNET, Retrieved April 03, 2018, from <https://www.cnet.com/news/what-is-the-nsas-prism-program-faq/>

In Benjamin Dreyfus’ online article “What is the NSA's PRISM program” he examines exactly what the PRISM program is and defines the exact capabilities of the government program. The article is an informational text that outlines multiple definitions and highlights several different stakeholders. The article was released shortly after the Snowden revelations making its’ content relevant and helpful to those who are not informed on the issues at hand. At the time of the Snowden revelations, there was a lot of confusion on the facts because the press got ahead of the official statements making all types of speculations and alternate facts possible. The purpose of this article was to clearly define the facts. For example, Dreyfus calls out Washington Post’s incorrect assertion that PRISM is an overarching data mining form of government surveillance when in reality, it is a targeted precise tool used for counter-terrorism.

This source is from CNET, which is a reputable source well versed in all issues relating to technology. They describe themselves as a media website that publishes reviews, news, articles, blogs, podcasts and videos on technology and consumer electronics globally. They are technically owned by CBS Interactive but act independently. The source is unbiased and strictly reports information representing both sides.

Zapotosky, M. (2017, October 06). Prosecutors reveal thwarted plot to bomb Times Square, New York subway. Washington Post, Retrieved April 03, 2018, from <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/prosecutors-reveal-thwarted-plot-to-bomb-times-square-new-york-subway/2017/10/06/ca9c6ade-aade-11e7-92d1-58c702d2d975_story.html?utm_term=.638e2e5acee6>

This is an online article reporting on the news and providing a platform to inform the public of important information. In Matt Zapotosky’s article, “Prosecutors reveal thwarted plot to bomb Times Square, New York subway” he analyzes the potential for another terrorist threat to be carried out successfully. This article demonstrates the need for government surveillance as it provides a look into the inner workings of terrorist organizations how they operate. Fortunately, this terror plot was able to be stopped through the collaboration of the NSA and FBI. These organizations utilized PRISM to foil the terrorist Abdulrahman El Bahnasawy who planned on bombing the NYC subway using his connections to ISIS.

This source is from The Washington Post, which is a reputable source but has at times been guilty of misreporting. What makes them reputable however, is the fact they rectify their mistakes when they misreport. The Washington Post is well known and is known for mostly reporting unbiased news articles. This source was unbiased as it only reported on the facts and provided little political commentary.

Gao, G. (2015, May 29). What Americans think about NSA surveillance, national security and privacy. Pew Research Center, Retrieved April 18, 2018, from <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/05/29/what-americans-think-about-nsa-surveillance-national-security-and-privacy/>

This is an online periodical providing factual contextual information. In George Gao’s article “What Americans think about NSA surveillance, national security and privacy” he illuminates the differences in opinion many Americans have when it comes to government surveillance. This article was a brief collection of various surveys and public opinions that were collected. The issue of internet privacy and surveillance is one of the most polarizing issues in the United States according to the data presented in the Pew Research article. The article shows that almost 54 percent of the nation disapproves of surveillance while among political party’s, republicans are more likely to disapprove but democrats are split on the issue.

This source was found in the Pew Research center which is an online resource for finding fact-based credible sources. Pew Research is very credible since all the sources that one can find on the collection are vetted to make sure they are factual valid sources. My source is unbiased and completely statically based making it a credible source.

Gallington, D. The Case for Internet Surveillance. (n.d.).US News, Retrieved April 18, 2018, from <https://www.usnews.com/opinion/blogs/world-report/2013/09/18/internet-surveillance-is-a-necessary-part-of-national-security>

This is an online article written by Daniel Gallington, who served in senior national security policy positions in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Department of Justice and as bipartisan general counsel for the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. After the Snowden revelations, many news stations and media outlets condemned the NSA and other government agencies. Gallington writes to defend these programs and argue as to why our nation is in need of such surveillance protocols. He goes on to further emphasize the freedom that many Americans take for granted. He points out how people in China are being watched all the time and Europe takes security measures many Americans would feel uncomfortable with. Gallington asserts that some form of surveillance is a necessity.

This source was found on US News which is a reputable news site. However, this article is fairly biased and imparts opinion on the reader. It is also written by a person who served in senior national security policy positions making his perspective inherently biased. However, his opinion rests in factual analysis and his experience make him a credible source.

Edkins, B. (2016, December 20). Americans Believe They Can Detect Fake News. Studies Show They Can't. Forbes, Retrieved April 18, 2018, from <https://www.forbes.com/sites/brettedkins/2016/12/20/americans-believe-they-can-detect-fake-news-studies-show-they-cant/#527dcf634022>

This is an online article written by Brett Edkins who was an aide to former U.S. National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C. He analyzes the current state of misreporting in the media and the fake news that has plagued reporting since news sources moved to an online platform. He uses a poll from BuzzFeed that shows 75 percent of Americans recognized a fake news story about the election as accurate. Edkins argues the fake news crisis has led to distrust in the government and made their job of serving the public more difficult.

This source was found on Forbes which is a very well known and reputable news site. While they mostly cover business, they have editorials and opinion pieces on politics and other world news. This article is somewhat biased but Edkins uses facts from multiple sources to back up his claims. The reputable news outlet and the accurate facts Edkins utilizes make this a credible source.

Editors, T. (2017, September 22). The Surveillance We Need. The Weekly Standard, Retrieved April 18, 2018, from <https://www.weeklystandard.com/the-editors/the-surveillance-we-need>

This is an online article written by the editors from The Weekly Standard. The editors aim to critique the system that we know as PRISM and to make a commentary on the Section 215 of the Patriot Act which has enabled the NSA and FBI to access business records to aid them in tracking down terrorist. The editors argue that government surveillance is something that this nation needs because of the terror plots it has stopped. However, the public outcry from the invasion of privacy makes the pushes the editors to argue for a system that can be improved upon. They argue for a compromise of section 702 which was created in 2008 of the bush administration. This compromise calls for more government transparency while still equipping the NSA with the means to conduct counter terrorist operations.

This source was found on The Weekly Standard which is a well-known and reputable source of news. They cover all types of news and are referenced mainly for their political commentary. This source is biased as it clearly takes a stance, but it is well-researched and based off factual data. The reputation of this news outlet and the facts they present make this a credible source.