

Facebook Status of Christopher J. Musser: 3/23/2020, updated 9/16/2020

First of all, things are a lot worse than they used to be as far as data security and privacy are concerned (see below: 4/12/2014 Facebook Status).

And *you all need to understand something*: if you spend any time at all on social media, you are giving control of your life away.

Why is this? Because the FACEBOOK EULA states in part: “when you share, post, or upload content . . . you grant us a non-exclusive, transferable, sub-licensable, royalty-free, and worldwide license to host, use, distribute, modify, run, copy, publicly perform or display, translate, and create derivative works of your content.”

So, facebook can use or sell any document, photograph, sound file, video, etc. *you’ve ever posted* for whatsoever purpose they please *forever*, and there’s nothing you can do about it.

Facebook can edit any of that material to say something you didn’t intend to say, and sell that, too; sell movie scripts based on your family history, promote political candidates you despise with a song you wrote, write articles about you (*using your own information!*) to criticize you if you run for office, or sell your information to someone who could then fire you from your job, or decide whether to insure you (or not), etc. etc. etc.

Etc!

And everyone also has to realize every period and comma you’ve ever written while connected to the Internet is still there, can be accessed by anyone, and is searchable at the speed of light.

Don’t believe me? Go to The Wayback Machine, www.archive.org, and find (as long as you can remember the date) any post you (or anyone else) has ever written. Ever. On the Internet. Or backed up to the Internet. Or transmitted over the Internet. Ever. In seconds, if you know what you’re doing.

The internet means forever, and there’s nothing you can do about that, even if and after major legislation *is* passed.

(Note: we’ve read a recent *Atlantic Magazine* article on “The Rotting Internet,” and we’re aware of the loss of much news and documentary video that used Adobe Flash, however, the articles are careful to point out that “text” and photographic flat files will always be there, and the danger of rotting is more losing studies on the mating habits of Monarch Butterflies, or local city meetings, I believe. Proprietary social media, propagates easily, and will be recoverable easily for a long long time, and the point is, not only don’t you know, you don’t even have the time or resources to find out.)

And the Wayback machine is only one of many *thousands* of archive sites on the Internet. Every country’s Primary Security Service (as well as many other departments, international organizations, businesses etc.) have their own.

This isn't really hard to do with modern storage and processing power, because all the archives *do* back up, are the CHANGES made to data, and most of the 2 billion or so websites in the world are (relatively) static sites, like <http://muscomm.com>.

So, because all a person is (can be said), is his/her/it's data and the information about him/her/it, I'm afraid most of you don't realize they already *own you*, and will forever, absent or not the aforementioned legislation.

Why hasn't this come more to the fore in public consciousness? Because they're still making billions, and people haven't figured out that they're selling our data every day right now. They don't *need* to sell that particular lead guitar lick you just posted; however, if it ever becomes a million seller, and they want the money, they'll take their half, better believe me, right out of your bank account.

So, is there a solution? Yep: 1) Never post information on the Internet that isn't *unfailingly* positive and professional and 2) build your own website. Slap a copyright notice on it, and the same information you've been posting for years now (at least the latest versions) appear on *your* website, so that you are the *only* person who owns it, and if you see that information later on facebook, you can have it removed or sue them and win.

I suggest Wordpress as the fastest, most effective way to do that.

And you can still use Facebook, every day; just login, post, "Hey, I just went canoeing on the Russian River, wanna see the pics? Click here (link to your website)," and your friends will be there in two seconds, while at the same time you can still read all your friends stuff, and if you do want to talk with them about any of it, *call them on the phone*.

Because under serious California law any of that information on a telephone can't be used in court, without a recording, or a beep tone, to let you know you are being recorded.

Besides which, you get *nuance*, too. The only reasons people text you while they're holding a phone in their hand is 1) because they're making money not talking to you, or 2) *don't want* to talk to you, period.

Most people can learn Wordpress in six months or so, and a website where you own everything you post for the rest of you life costs about \$100 a year. Heck, you could build websites for your friends, or for pay, too—a nice way to spend time when you have to stay home in a pandemic.

Lately I've seen several quasi-official facebook, etc. postings that say stuff like "I hear by serve notice to facebook that everything I post is owned by me and always will be," etc. And they add a link to some flavor of international copyright convention (or several of them) but *give me a break*: you "signed" a legal agreement when you first logged in to facebook (although you didn't read it, did you?) and somehow you think you can't be held to that agreement when they employ thousands of the best lawyers in the world?

Give me a big break.

So there, that's my rant, and I hope you will get a sense of the danger we are all in, and why the breakup of facebook and other social networking websites, and the policing of harmful and erroneous information and the restoration of our privacy needs to be our utmost priority.

However, what we also need to realize is that command and control networks (5G, satellite, etc.) are a national security priority, so we can't go backwards, or we'll all be learning Chinese.

If you're a patriot, you need to take a Windows class, and become involved in the decisions and votes that need to happen to be able to shape the arguments around information technology, our freedom, and the law.

Oh yeah, when you have time, watch the latest Edward Snowden interview, too.

Mind bending.

Best Regards,

Chris

P. S. I'm as pissed off as anyone else in this country (I guess I'm still ranting) at being forced to use technology to navigate life especially when you may have enjoyed a long career say, as a waitress, or a plumber, or cook, or an auto mechanic, or a carpenter, or merchant seaman, or nurse, etc. and have never wanted or *needed* the newest technology to be able to enjoy your life, and here's a true story that will confirm that:

A few years ago a LOL down the road hired this LOM to connect her new Apple Ipad to her new Apple printer, because she wasn't able to do that, and she just wanted to print pictures she had been emailed of her grandkids. So, for only \$17 an hour, which I thought was a good price, I drove down to her house for a couple hours work at the most. She new the printer was right for the ipad because there was a picture of an ipad on the box it came in, along with the other Apple devices that the printer could be connected to.

After 8 hours of banging away at the job without success, reading all the included documentation, changing the hookup from wireless to physical cables and back, etc. etc. etc. I had finally reached on the phone a senior support engineer, who told me "Yeah, that printer never worked with the ipad, but we only shipped it for a couple of weeks."

When I told him I was going to charge her \$100 and asked what he could do for her, he told me "I can give her 10% off on a new printer, if she drives to an Apple store."

Right.

Facebook Status of Christopher J. Musser: 4/12/2014

First of all, notice that I'm not actually PLAYING the guitar in my new, upgraded Facebook photograph. This indicates that I'd like to be known as someone who CAN play the guitar, but it hasn't happened yet.

Secondly, even though it's becoming as necessary as the Internet, Social Networking sucks.

It turns you into a product; is there anyone out there who doesn't understand that? However, the horse is out of the barn, and there can be benefits (such as when you want to start a revolution, and you need to tell everyone about an upcoming demonstration.)

And the Internet is definitely required if you want to do your banking conveniently, or run a modern business, or crowdsource funding to produce a film, or need quality medical care and live in the heart of the Congo, or have to use a calculator. And because I need to create a professional social media presence for my business, and design social media marketing campaigns for others, I'll be spending a lot more time on Facebook from now on to accomplish that. However, most if not all of that time will be spent on pages that are business related.

Because even though it gives us the chance to "stay connected" with old "friends," a friend once told me old friends are called that for a reason. And to be very honest, the thought of spending several hours a day on a computer to read and respond to all of the information posted by all of my old friends, taking into account what I still want to accomplish in life, would be the biggest waste of my time in the world.

I feel like I'm just starting out in life, and playing catchup after an indolent and mis-directed youth (which I loved) and one of the reasons I moved way out in Lake County is to keep moving away from bad influences in my hometown and close by. (I understand that's my problem, not yours.) And although most of my old friends AREN'T bad influences, the possibility that I'd sign a petition to keep "Third Rock from the Sun" on TV from someone I haven't seen or spoken with in 40 years, when I don't even OWN a TV, is effectively "0."

So I want you to know that I love you all, especially the people who HAVE BEEN bad influences, and I've only "friended" any of you because I do, (although I've already been "unfriended" by zillions of old "friends" because I never got back to them.) I hope none of you take it personally.

I feel under pressure over this, like we're supposed to, from the companies that are shoving online communications down our throat. The web is NOT the great equalizer, they just want you to think that.

I've never "liked" or "shared" anything, ever, online, because this is a way for unscrupulous people and companies to sell you something, or to acquire information that will give them control over you. Remember, if you want off of the web, you can deactivate your profiles, but never delete them. The Internet means forever, and the quicker all of our information, including our "likes" and "dislikes" are compiled and centralized and saved, the quicker we lose our freedoms.

I fully expect, after I post this update, to receive unsolicited emails that offer guitar lessons.

That's how the Internet works. If that's the world you want to live in, go ahead, but I'll just go slow with sharing ANY personal and private information with ANYONE on and over the Internet. By the way, I'm considering GIVING UP learning how to play the guitar, too. (Take that, Facebook!)

If someone really wants to "friend" me, or "refriend" me, or "share" something with me, especially something personal, they can call me up or write. If you want me to sign a petition, or read a joke, or

view pictures of your great-grandkids, or anything else that doesn't involve a needed or entirely heart-felt communication with me, please don't try, I just don't have the time. My true friends will realize that.

There's some very good things about the Internet, and also some very bad things. After almost 40 years in data, I think I understand the difference.

There's also a big handfull of you, especially people I had relationships with after high school, who deserve to hear back from me. I'm trying to make the effort to do that. When I get the time I'm going to call or email you. Please don't keep that from calling me, first.

So if you can't live without corresponding, or need to let other people know you're "friends" with me, or find out in detail what I'd doing, or you're headed this way and want to visit, please give me a call or email (or mail) me. Since all I do now is work on my media business, please visit my website, www.mussercommunications.com, if you'd like to know what I'm doing in life.

I've recently gotten back in touch with another, really old friend from childhood, who emailed me first, and seems to be having the same problems I'm having "socially networking." I guess we've both become a bit of a recluse.

If he ever replies to my last email, I'm going to try my best to find the time to correspond with him, when I can.

Be good. Live long and prosper.

Call me up if you'd like to.

Chris