

Reading questions for:
Herman T. Tavani and James H. More, *Privacy
Protection, Control of Information, and
Privacy-Enhancing Technologies*.
CS-80—Senior Seminar
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1. Throughout their paper, Travani and Moor explore many of the various facets of privacy while arguing for more distinction between concept and control. According to them, what are the “traditional” definitions of privacy, and how are they un-satisfactory? Do you think they leave anything out? What is their main complaint with the traditional definitions of privacy, and is their complaint justified? What do they feel makes a good privacy policy? Why do they feel these aspects are important? What is wrong with a policy based solely upon control?
2. Travani and Moor stipulate that a distinction must be drawn between normative and natural/descriptive privacy. Is this possible? Why must we be forced to make an “all or none” choice, and how does the restricted access theory/model not allow for this choice? They also extrapolate on the potential re-design of the boundaries between what we value as private and public. Are these actually necessary in today’s world? Do you think their proposals are reasonable, or are they asking for too much?
3. Despite their bashing of privacy policies which rely solely upon control, Travani and Moor recognize the need for personal control in a privacy system. In the management of privacy, what are the objectives of the 3 manifestations of information/privacy control (choice, consent, and correction) and why are these important to the management of privacy?

4. In their discussion of PETs, do the authors of this article elaborate on how PETs fit into their idea of an adequate privacy policy? What is one of the major flaws in PETs? Is there any way that these flaws can be prevented in future PETs? What are some of the conceptual flaws in modern PETs? How can these be corrected? How is it that PETs are occasionally used to replace some of the other aspects of a respectable privacy policy and privacy management system? Does this make PETs more or less effective? With respect to e-commerce, entrepreneurs have relied upon users making “informed decisions” about disclosing their information and therefore there exists a form of informed consent. In today’s market, do you think this is a legitimate claim? If not, what needs to be changed? How are PETs inadequate in protecting an individual’s privacy?