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Proof of ID Required? Getting Identity Management Right

Genomics Directions: Bioethics & Beyond Public Lecture

Perth 16 November 2004





Privacy is about:

- context
- control
- freedom of choice
- identity integrity
- TRUST

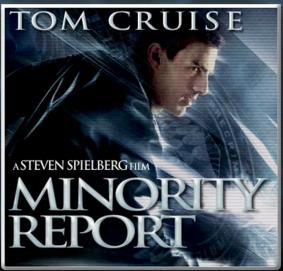
ID management is also about trust & control

Individuals don't know who they can trust with their information

- Organisations / governments want to know who they can trust
- Individuals have a right to have control over their identity and information

Is total ID management just science fiction?





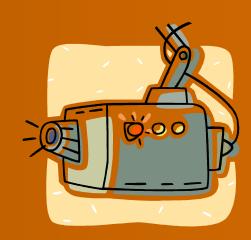
← Eye Scan

DNA Scan



Or possibly an emerging reality:

- Employee thumbprint system in bars/cafés (SMH Radar, 17 March 2004)
- US School <u>cafeteria fingerprint</u>
- Iceland DNA project
- Total Information Awareness (TIA) project

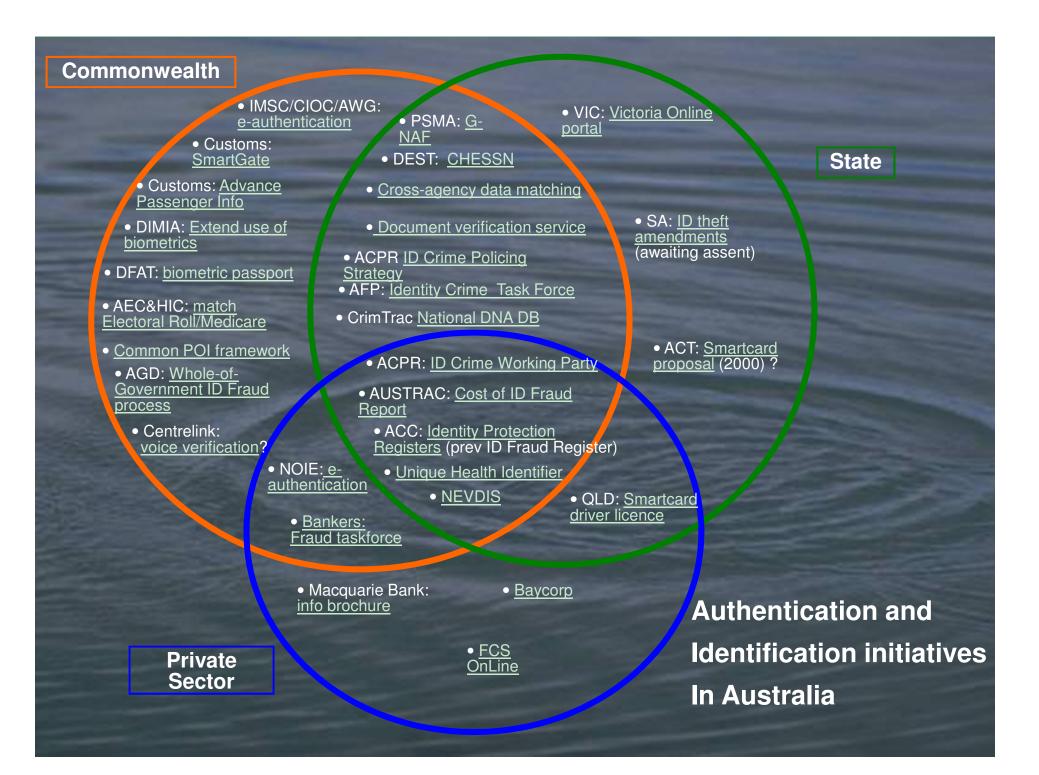


Identity management: the next big push for government and business

Response to:

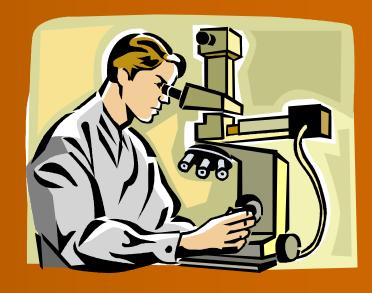
- identity fraud
- identity theft or identity takeover
- border control and traveller identification
- individual convenience
- better customer service for individuals
- more and more complex IT networks





Recent "Red Herring" Solutions

- One number per person
 - Australia Card
- Some biometrics: same body = same person. Can that go wrong?
- Mass data matching projects abandoned after privacy criticism
 - (e.g. US: <u>Total Information</u>
 <u>Awareness</u>; <u>MATRIX</u>;
 Canada: <u>cradle to grave database</u>
 proposal)



One number per person leads to total surveillance

- Same person with the same number, easy to "zip together" personal information
- Do we want info from banks, libraries, video shops, and takeaway food outlets zipped together with government identifiers?
- If it can be zipped together, it will be eventually



Major Privacy Problems



- Fort Knox Problems
- Identity theft is a <u>self-defeating consequence of increased identification</u>
- People may change behaviour
 - (to avoid situations that might be misunderstood by watchers, e.g. <u>talking to people with strong political views</u>, or of certain ethnic backgrounds)
- No EOI documents means no engagement in society – EOI documents become the condition of citizenry

Success feels like:

- Individuals feel trusted by the government agencies and organisations they deal with
- Agencies and organisations trust the individuals they deal with
- Individuals have control over who knows about them, and how much they know
- Just the right amount of personal information is handled:
 - only the minimum necessary to authenticate identity, complete the transaction



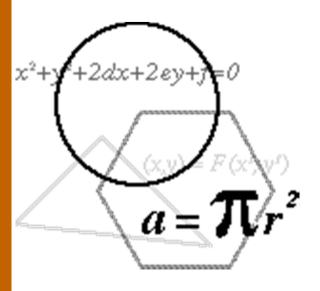
BUT HOW? A MULTI-LAYERED APPROACH

- Create trust open, vigorous debate
- There are good ID management solutions
 - use them
- Use technology that can identify people without creating a 'honey pot' for all the information about a person
- Extra 'costs' are the key
 - Never forget economics



Law + Technology + Market + Transparency + Accountability

- Law = promise; enforcement
- Technology = delivers promise
- Market = public debate; people don't buy; nobody makes
- T+A = proof of promise kept
 governance, audit, complaints
- Combined = something like the previous balance achieved from 'practical obscurity'



Good ID management: PITs v PETs

- Multiple identities allowed
- Only authenticate when necessary & what's necessary
 - is it ID which really needs to be authenticated or something else?
- Individuals retain control
- Unique identifiers specific to application
- Identifiers carry no other information
- Data Silos
- De-identification





Biometrics too good to be true?

- Too much or irrelevant information?
 - DNA can carry information about ethnic origin, health, family etc
 - Speech recognition may carry information about accent or cultural background
- Link between a person and the biometric may be unbreakable, even when it needs to be?
- If the system is hacked will the identifier be compromised?
- Reconstruction, or 'reverse engineering' from biometric identifier?
 - (e.g. picture of fingerprint may allow construction of forged fingerprint)

Privacy Enhancing Technologies (PETs)?

Building in trust, permission & control ...

- Iris recognition technology & application specific biometric templates
- 'Drug records in blink of an eye', AFR, 9 Mar 2004
- Biometric encryption
- BM idemix 😘: pseudonymity for e-transactions
- P3P; EPAL; Distributed Identity; Combinations; PRIME

The Big Picture

Strong push for identity management

Get it wrong – society significantly worse off

Get it right – trust & control

The debate must start now, before it's too late

Privacy – a fundamental human right

www.privacy.gov.au/news/speeches/sp1 04p.pdf

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