Privacy and Social Media



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What is Social Media





Social Media Landscape in Hong Kong



Active Internet users: 6.46 million (87% of total population)



Active social media users: 5.8 million (78% of total population)



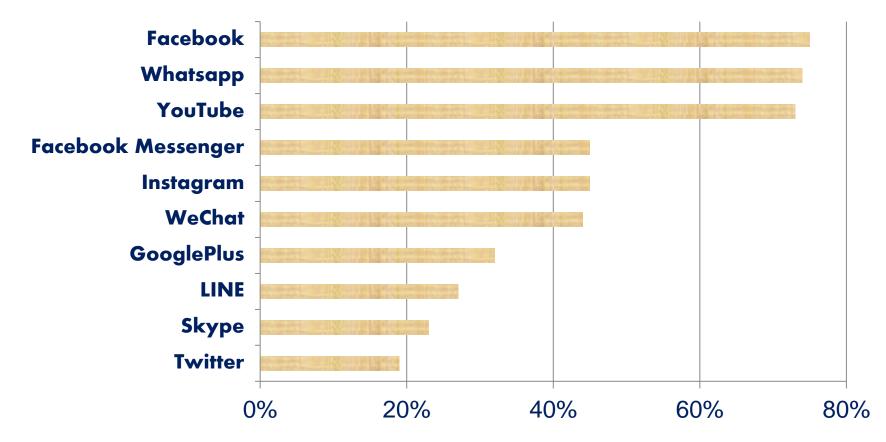
Active mobile social users: 5.2 million (70% of total population)

Source: wearesocial.com (as in January 2018)



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Penetration of leading social network in Hong Kong



Source: statista.com (as in Q3 2017)



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Pros and Cons of Social Media

Pros

Worldwide connectivity

Commonality of interest

Real-time information sharing

Increased transparency

Targeted advertising strategy

Increased speed of news cycle

Cons

Cyber-bullying

Risk of fraud and identity theft

Oversharing

Loss of reputation

Invasion of privacy

Risk of information security



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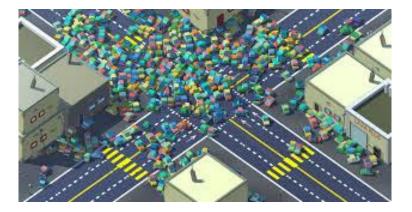
Why businesses use social media



Targeted ads



Regular interaction



Website traffic



Brand awareness

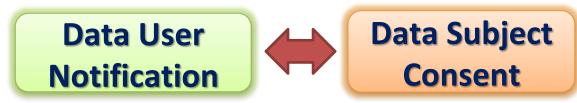


Build relationship



Direct Marketing

- The offering, or advertising of the availability, of goods, facilities or services;
- The solicitation of donations or contributions for charitable, cultural, philanthropic, recreational, political or other purposes;
- Through direct marketing means (the above activities made to <u>specific person</u> by mail, fax, email and phone)







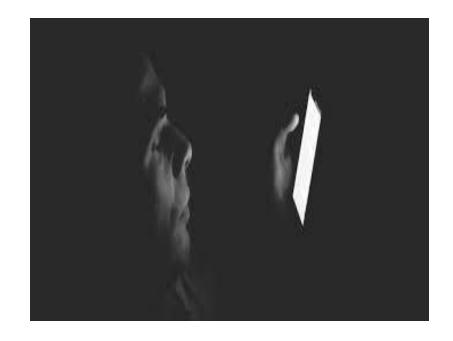


Data Risk and Challenges





(1) Covert Data Collection



- Massive and ubiquitous data collection from multiple sources
- Tracking online and offline
- Data subject may be unaware of data collection and use



(2) Unexpected Data Use



- Companies analyse innocuous data to predict intimate and sensitive data
- Correlations (not causality)
- Users may be surprised by predictions



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(3) Re-identification



 Combining datasets may allow re-identification of data subjects



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(4) Profiling, Unfairness and Discrimination



- Profiling to infer or predict individuals' preferences, health, work performance, credit worthiness, propensity to crime
- Loan institutions lowered people's credit limits based on poor repayment histories of other people shopping at same stores



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(5) Security Risk



- Hacking
- Malware(e.g. ransomware, virus)



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Data Protection Principles





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Complaints in Relation to Use of

Information and Communications Technology

	2015	2016	2017
No. of complaint cases in relation to use of ICT			
Use of social networking websites			
Use of smartphone applications	241	229	237
Disclosure or leakage of personal data on Internet			
Cyber-bullying			
Total no. of complaint cases	1,971	1,838	1,533*
Percentage	12%	12%	15%

*exclude 1,968 complaints relating to the reported loss of laptops containing personal data of election committee members and electors by the Registration and Electoral Office.



Facebook Incident





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Facebook Incident

- Remove developers' access to users' data if users have not accessed the app for 3 months;
- Restrict the type of personal data disclosed to app developers;
- Restrict user search function;
- Provide more user-friendly privacy control to users.







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Suggestions for Data Users

Accountability







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Suggestions for Data Users

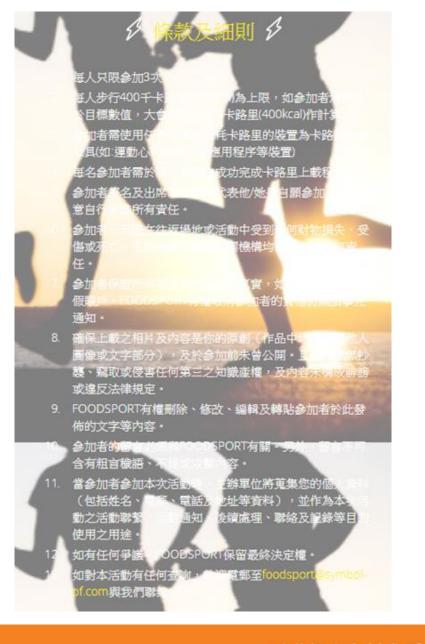






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Suggestions for Data Users

Meaningful Choices







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Tips for individuals





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Tips for individuals

> Think before you share/upload anything

- Consider targets for sharing (Public? Friend only?)
- > Review privacy settings regularly







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Tips for individuals

- > Read the privacy policy
- > Avoid providing excessive personal data
- Be cautious about third-party applications
- Remove unused accounts
- ➤ Turn off location function
- > Again, think before you share/upload





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