

## "Censorship" Internet laws in the US

- Communications Decency Act: ACLU v Reno
  - "offensive" material off-limits to minors
  - > 1997 SCOTUS, unanimously unconstitutional.
  - > Section 230 survives: blogger/ISP immunity
- Children's Internet Protection Act: CIPA
  - Schools, libraries must install and use filtering software (e-rate: Duke? Durham?...)
  - Affirmed by SCOTUS in 2003, filters must be "disableable", though not by minors

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## Internet (and other) Censorship

- What is censorship? Does venue matter?
  - Cigarette commercials on TV, profanity, military and national-security documents, Google Earth images, Super Bowl commercials,
- What about Internet censorship?
  - Nationwide: where and why
  - > School-wide: where and why
  - > Family-wide: where and why

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### Censorship in Australia (Denmark,...)



- Blacklists for ISPs at the country level
  - > Domain name censorship

Kevin Rudd's website hacked over internet censorship

By staff writers and wires | NEWS.com.au | September 09, 2009 09:09pm

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- Wikileaks hosts site, threatened with fines
- Started with good intentions (perhaps), but ...
  - > How does a domain name get on the list? Off?

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#### **Internet/Web Censorship**

- Blacklists, client, ISP, country, other?
  - > How are these implemented?
  - > Possible to bypass with 79.141.34.22
  - Counteract with whitelist?
- Can we block, filter, or examine IP address?
  - ➤ Where is the IP address?
    - ISP-wide, bottlenecks, technologically feasible?
  - > What about "deep packet inspection"?

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# Software filters, what do they do?

- (2002) Peacefire, open access for net gen. <a href="http://www.religioustolerance.org/cyberpat3.htm">http://www.peacefire.org/BaitAndSwitch/</a>
  - > Does where a message comes from affect the status of whether it's ok?
- China: Green Dam/Youth Escort
  - ➤ Uproar 7/09-8/09!: all laptops in China must have filtering software installed!
  - > preliminary Green Dam analysis

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# Firewalls and Proxies

- Golden Shield
  - ➤ Great Firewall of China
  - > Atlantic on firewall.cn
- Personal/Corporate Firewall
  - > IP packet layer, Application layer
  - > Stop or allow, based on ...
  - > Port numbers used for granularity
- Proxy server
  - For firewall, for content, for censorship?

HARRISON FORD
FAUL PETTANY

FIREWALL

WITH
WITH THE WORLD

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## http://opennet.net

Straightforward state regulation of speech without technological components can, of course, result in censorship; our work here is designed to focus on regulation that, when implemented through code, seems more a force of nature than an exercise of political or physical power.

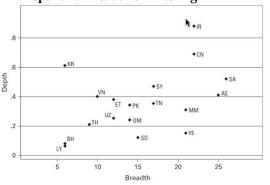


Thus it is entirely possible that a state that does not require or inspire technical filtering can possess a set of regulations or social norms or market factors that render its information environment less free than a state with fairly extensive technical filtering.

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### **Censorship and Filtering**

- Chapter 1, Access Denied http://opennet.net/accessdenied
  - > Depth and Breadth of Filtering



## Cyber-dissidents and Blogger

Unlike some hosting companies which become accomplices to governments in repressive countries by surrendering their bloggers' personal data, we

undertake never to provide any information about your identity as long as all you are doing is exercise your right to free expression.

# Reporters sans Frontières http://www.rsf.org/

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Laws in Other Countries

Mo censorship
Under surveillance (Internet \*black holes\*)

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# Yahoo!, France, Nazi Memorabilia

 Ligue contre le racisme et l'antisémitisme et Union des étudiants juifs de France c. Yahoo! Inc. et Société Yahoo! France (LICRA v. Yahoo!)



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LICRA\_v.\_Yahoo! http://www.lapres.net/yahweb.html

- French student groups sue Yahoo!
  - > Sue in US, take down material
  - ➤ Violation of French law, but what about US First Amendment rights?
  - ➤ Court case complicated by "ripeness"

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### Skype, TOM-Skype, China

• http://skype.com





- <a href="http://skype.tom.com">http://skype.tom.com</a>
- http://www.nartv.org/2008/10/01/breaching-trust-tom-skype/
- Our investigation reveals troubling security and privacy breaches affecting TOM-Skype

   the Chinese version of the popular voice and text chat software Skype. It also raises troubling questions regarding how these practices are related to the Government of China's censorship and surveillance policies.

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### Josh Silverman, Skype President

"What we have discovered in our conversations with TOM is that they in fact were required to do this by the Chinese government. It is common knowledge that censorship does exist in China and that the Chinese government has been monitoring

communications in and out of the country for many years. .... TOM, like every other communications service provider operating in China, has an obligation to be compliant with local laws if they are to be able to operate in China at all."

http://tinyurl.com/6pokw

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## Turkey, YouTube, Ataturk

- YouTube hosts videos deemed "insulting", so Turkey orders their removal
  - > Remove in Turkey
  - > Remove worldwide
  - ➤ Ban YouTube in Turkey

http://arama.hurriyet.com.tr/arsivnews.aspx?id=10441

- Other countries and YouTube
  - ➤ Why? How?



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#### **Adnan Oktar**

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- Adnan Oktar is a prominent Turkish intellectual.
   Completely devoted to moral values and dedicated to communicating the sacred values he cherishes to other people, <a href="http://www.harunyahya.com/theauthor.php">http://www.harunyahya.com/theauthor.php</a>
- A Muslim creationist has succeeded in having Richard Dawkins's website banned in Turkey, after complaining that its atheist content was blasphemous. (2008) http://tinyurl.com/5d6bv5
- Boston Globe, October 2009

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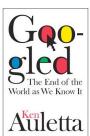
### Google buys ...

- Postini: web, email security, malware filters
  - > 2007/\$625M, malware filtering by Google
  - > Oct 2009, Postini Fails
- DoubleClick: online advertising, rich media
  - > 2008/\$3.1B advertising juggernaut?
- On2: video codecs, Theora, others
  - > 2009/\$106M, video is everywhere?
- Recaptcha: web security? OCR?

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# **Does Google Have Too Much Power?**

- Google's Gatekeepers
- Nicole Wong
  - > The Decider
- Google as Monopoly
  - ➤ Harbinger?





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### www.globalnetworkinitiative.org

- EFF, Berkman Center, CDT, Human Rights Watch
- Google, Microsoft, Yahoo
- kld.com, domini.com, bostoncommonasset.com,...
- Who are these stakeholders? What are their goals?
- ...a multi-stakeholder group of companies, civil society organizations (including human rights and press freedom groups), investors and academics spent two years negotiating and creating a collaborative approach to protect and advance freedom of expression and privacy in the ICT sector, and have formed an Initiative to take this work forward.

, Fall 2009