

Free Write 8

Do you think that people treasure their physical property more than their personal data in the online space? Propose a strategy that aims to make users more protective of their cyber privacy and aware of possible data breaches and violations.

I think treasuring physical property vs. treasuring online personal data is a generational thing. To be more specific, older people would be much more likely to treasure physical property, around middle aged people would treasure a combination of both, and younger people would more likely to treasure personal data. Older people care more about physical property because they didn't grow up with the same technology and although some older people have adapted, i've noticed (at least around me) that many tend to stay "old fashioned." People who are around the middle age are more likely to share a mix between the two because they utilize physical assets along with personal data online. Some physical properties include land, house, car, television, internet, etc... It's how individuals manage these physical properties that leans into the cyber realm. For example, many people pay bills for physical properties online, which entails using your personal data in the online space. Also, it's worth mentioning that individuals often have jobs that require them to use new types of technology (sometimes needing to use personal data), thus having to adapt and learn. Lastly, younger people tend to treasure their online data more because many of us grew up with the internet and we typically utilize the internet much more. There's a lot of younger people that base their entire lives around their online presence more than their presence in reality. Thus, if something were to jeopardize that presence, it would be

crushing for those individuals. Also, technology will continue to evolve and we will only become more intertwined with the cyber realm as time goes on.

My biggest strategy in making users protective of their cyber privacy and aware of possible data breaches and violations is teaching it in school. Starting in middle school, I think it should be required in the curriculum in order to ensure the safety of younger generations. This would help them be more mindful in their current online usage, but also in ensuring a safer cyber presence in their future.