This work is the culmination of my work these past two terms in Bennington. What started as an interest in privacy and law development into human rights infringements, government surveillance, corporate interests and eventually, data mishandle out of irresponsibility and negligence. Data misuse as a whole includes all the named topics, and so at times the material included here and the research seems too broad, but I feel it shows my mental exploration adequately. I decided to ‘break up’ a single document into multiple ones according to its usage and relative relevance due to the great amount of material and topics covered. In particular, the direct implementation of my research did not take place in this class, but in a tutorial with Andrew Cencini, who oversaw the beginning of it. I still have a long way to go in order to finish it, and I might no be able to do that in my remaining time at Bennington, but getting it down and started was the catalyst for other opportunities: I submitted an abstract to two conferences, ‘VAAS Student Symposium’ (a conference about student research) and ‘The Diana Initiative’ (a conference on information security, women and non-binary centric), where it got accepted. I presented at VAAS in Castleton, VT on April 27th, and I am set to present at Diana Initiative in Las Vegas, NE on August 9th. While one of them is centered around students, the fact that my research got accepted into an industry conference is humbling and speaks to me on both the strength and importance of my work.

Completing my work was at times disconcerting. Because it was developed side-to-side in two classes, I had to keep both sides updated on what I was doing on the other side and how they mixed, and I wasn’t sure how I was to be graded as a result. I had constant trouble understanding how this class’ requirements fit into my work, nor how to talk about it in class presentations, to other students or to the instructors, as it was very technical and, to me, very out of place when compared to other’s work. I expect to present it properly in next term’s Science Workshop, as the Advance Workshop presentation in CAPA proved a poor ground for my work (I got only one visitor).

All in all, I think that this work sets me up for bigger things professionally. The fact that I can showcase this, engage with the information security community and use it as a base for future work is invaluable for entering the industry as a professional.