

**From:** Thomas Morris  
**To:** [Assistance Bill Consultation](#)  
**Subject:** The concerns of a modern citizen.  
**Date:** Tuesday, 4 September 2018 7:23:12 AM

---

Hello there,

I could understand the desire to have rapid access to vital information when enforcing the law and protecting the public, but to legislate a means of rapidly accessing the data of the populace is a ridiculous breach of privacy of the public and a vast overreach of a organisation installed by the public trust of citizens. To institute a systematic back door to the information of vast swathes of private information is an undeniable step towards authoratian control by the government it is built to protect. I may not, and will likely never, have data and content on my phone or computer that I'd feel uncomfortable knowing a stranger may see without my consent I could envision a million scenarios where that could be grossly inappropriate. I am certain there's data analysts the world over who, on a daily basis, see personally embarrassing and socially incriminating materials but the fact that they can access this from members of the public in a space they deemed personal and private is just plain deplorable.

The age of digital media and interconnectivity has brought beautiful bounties and unpleasant realisation but humankind has always had things we've kept to ourselves or prized in private. To institute legislative power to access any of this at any time would be no different to a power night 20 years ago to instantaneously access the journals or the bedside drawers or pull out from under mattresses or look amongst hollowed books and go through the contents of one's private life. I understand that there will be 'protections' to keep from mismanagement or misuse of these technologies but history has proven time again these to be ineffective at preventing problems that were impossible before the technology was developed.

Please think not as legislators and enforcers and think as rational human beings and see that these actions would be a grotesque overextension of power. Go back to the drawing board and think about means of accessing the data in a lawful and respectful manner akin to that of current requirements for lawful collection of evidence prior to rifling through the data a device holds and doesn't jeopardise the public trust and safety. We've seen incredible breaches of privately shared data through misuse of current systems, don't institute a mandatory means of violating privately stored and personal data.

This is getting beyond maddening the way you plan out further control of the populace,  
Thomas Morris  
Concerned citizen