



So I tried to remove the entry on Google Maps, but all roads led to the problem that I had to have a Google account to edit the listing (notice that 'remove' wasn't an option). You can't call Google. You can't send them an email unless you are a member of the club and I doubt they would read it. They are in control.

Google thinks it can steal your identity just because it can, and is too big to challenge, and is American.

David Hart wrote in his book 'On The Origins of Google', that when Google was initially formed, it made six declarations, two of which are reproduced here:

1. "We claim human experience as raw material free for the taking. On the basis of this claim, we can ignore considerations of individual's rights, interests, awareness or comprehension.
2. On the basis of our claim, we assert the right to take an individual's experience for translation into behavioural data."

The Germans of course were on to them, and in 2010 the German Federal Commission for Data Protection announced that Google's Street View operation actually camouflaged a covert data sweep; Street View cars were secretly collecting personal data from private Wi-Fi networks ... Google conceded that it had intercepted and stored 'payload data' ... including names, telephone numbers, credit information, passwords, messages, emails and chat transcripts, as well as records of online dating, pornography, browsing behaviour, medical information, location data, photos, and video and audio files. They concluded that such data packets could be stitched together for a detailed profile of an identifiable person.ⁱ

Google and Facebook have built a pair of amazingly sophisticated, computer-driven engines for extracting users' personal information and data trails, refining them for sale to advertisers in high-speed data-trading auctions that are entirely unregulated and opaque to everyone except the companies themselves.ⁱⁱ

Religions and governments don't have that much influence over people's daily thoughts, but there are three technology companies, Facebook, Google and Apple, who have this system that frankly they don't even have control over ... Right now, 2 billion people's minds are already jacked in to this automated system, and it's steering people's thoughts toward either personalised paid advertising or misinformation or conspiracy theories. And it's all automated; the owners of the system can't possibly monitor everything that's going on, and they can't control it.ⁱⁱⁱ

ⁱ Shoshana Zuboff (Professor Emerita, Harvard Business School) reported in her book 'Surveillance Capitalism'. A good read but very dense. You need frequent rests.

ⁱⁱ John Naughton

ⁱⁱⁱ Tristan Harris, a former Google employee