

# Abstract

The failure to understand privacy policies is a problem faced by most individuals. Even legal experts have been known to misinterpret statements in privacy policies. This problem leads many people to participate in, or consent to activities that jeopardise their privacy based on incorrect assumptions.

The work presented in this research aims to begin the investigation of a particular method of evaluating privacy policies. The evaluation is based on whether enough information has been provided and whether the information is stated in a sufficiently clear manner. This strategy of evaluation is informed by the theory of Contextual Integrity, a theory of privacy that considers it to be the appropriate flow of information and judges it based on normative societal standards.

This dissertation begins the development of an analytical framework based on this literature to conduct this evaluation. This framework is implemented using Semantic Web technologies, a set of standards for representing and sharing information typically contained in web resources. Preliminary applications of the framework in this project present promising results. However, this dissertation presents this framework as a proof of concept that serves as an initial investigation into its real world viability.