

December 28, 2019
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Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about privacy. Free speech and the attendant open public discussions are among the great successes of our experiment in democracy. This is a delicate balance which requires some limits and a right to anonymity for the most contentious statements as codified in classification and whistleblower laws. Today unregulated data collection is destroying any semblance of privacy with a newspaper this month using easily available data to rapidly track you and identify your security detail. Besides not pushing any such regulation you are actively undermining whistleblower protections by personally exposing someone already needing an armed escort. Apparently your friends have such a low opinion of your restraint as to be only surprised you didn't do this sooner. Such attacks on the underpinnings of free speech bring the US a step closer to authoritarianism.

Please assure me that you will resign.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from the freedom to speak safely.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson