## Comments on spyware/adware:

I can absolutely attest to the fact that most, if not all, adware, insidiously attaches itself to a computer without the consumer's knowledge.

One does not even have to download anything to become infected with adware/spyware;my harddrive is less than 8 months old, used primarily for my teenager's homework, and we have not used any type of file-sharing program at all. In fact, the only thing I have downloaded is recently-AdAware and Spyware Nuker, in the past week, to combat a maddeningly frustrating problem-which, in spite of both those programs and also a Google Pop-Up blocker(in the past five days having blocked 148 popups, and that's just from a few hours a day!)-are taking over and have literally rendered my computer totally useless. It has taken me four days to write this...many times the popups will form over what I am typing and so I cannot open WordPad or other programs. Passwords can be typed into the appropriate window-but never appear, leading me to believe that my passwords have been copied down by some thieving bot and stolen! Well, where else do they go?

It is impossible to play an online game. Movement is interrupted and jerky, popups appear blocking the screen sometimes for as long as five minutes at a time. Closing the boxes that appear is not always an option; more often than not, clicking on the "X" will only open another window. I no longer talk to anyone online-they think I don't understand what is said to me or just don't want to answer. The fact is, everything freezes up while these ads are displayed-and they WILL NOT go away.

Pressing ALT&CTRL&DEL will bring up a screen showing what programs are up and running....except for the adware. It doesn't always show. Worse still, I can hear my harddrive revving up to load even more of the things, yet nothing appears to be running, nothing is listed beyond what it takes to run the computer. The Google popup blocker has been a lifesaver, or at (closing Gambling.com, publisher's clearing house-I really expected better of them-and some obscene thing about "hot singles" whatever they are, with a large behind emerging from a pair of dropped pants) least a sanity saver. the reason it even has any to field is because most of them are labelled "Microsoft Internet Explorer" and so the popup blocker has to let them through. It's fooled.

## I was,too.

Another incredible thing that has happened since my computer became infected with the Ads virus (lame humor,I know.Bear with me)is that I can get into my e-mail,sign out again,shut down the computer...and when I next connect to the Internet,my open mailbox will be right there waiting!! It can be hours or even the next day.Something has to have copied my information and inadvetently brought the copied screen up at the next command.I find this horrifying even though I have no deep dark secrets in my Inbox. Everyone I have asked about adware gives the same answer; they will never patronize any of the companies who stoop to bombardment as a marketing tool and will actually go out of their way to avoid them altogether.So how can it be profitable?Maybe they market more than their products. In summation, please, PLEASE, consider all spyware an intrusion and invasion of privacy, and please see to it that all adware of any kind is classed as telemarketing and appropriately removed from existence.

Thanking you for your time, Sincerely, Laura Aynsley

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