From:
Posted At: Monday, April 05, 2004 7:16 PM
Posted To: spywareworkshop2004
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Greetings!
I thought I would share a bit about how I feel about spyware.
I am now on my second PC since 1998. Up until this year I honestly had no idea how much spyware was in my previous computer or the newer one I am on now. I had no idea of how far reaching it was, that it was tracking my movements, all I knew was I had some stuff in my computer that I could not uninstall or make go away no matter what I did. I am an intermediate computer user. I use it at home and at work all day so I am not a total beginner or unaware how to navigate around pretty well.

Apparently I got a majority of the spyware in my computer from visiting sites on the web and clicking things I thought would be ok when it made it seem like it was things that would help me. I had no idea these things would be something that would STAY in my computer once I decided I did NOT want it in my computer any longer. It is like they took over and I could not simply uninstall!

I became increasingly frustrated about how to get this stuff out and I was so weary of pop ups that I finally was referred to a free computer help site called PcPitstop and there, those kind folks clued me in to what was happening in my computer and I ran programs at their suggestion to locate and eradicate these pesky things and then and only then did I discover I had 100's of these things in there! Thanks to those people I am now more aware of spyware is and in turn it has helped me to teach my son and friends what to be aware of when they click things on these websites that seem harmless.

These spyware ads should HAVE to contain a warning clearly listed that it is impossible to uninstall from one's computer without special programs to do so. They should have to clearly state what will happen if you download this stuff knowingly or unknowingly. A prime example of this would be cigarettes. People may not quit smoking but they are advised of the risks clearly on the package so they know what they are letting themselves in for. The same should apply to spyware. If it cannot be eradicated, it should come with a clearly defined warning label so that less than knowledgable users or new computer owners at least have a chance to actually KNOW what this stuff does.

Thank you so much for listening :)
Sincerely,
Tracy Lynn