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Hi,

I work for the Department of Education in West Virginia, in my job, I have had opportunity to run into the spyware problem and have a few comments on it.

1: All spyware uses system resources, I've had many machines end up with many, many adware and spyware apps on them, hogging system resources and making the machines so unusable that the users thought they were crashing. This comes from the fact that they bundle their software with other free software downloads and the users don't even know they are installing them, since the only way they find out, is at the end of some terms of agreements most people don't even read.

2: All spyware intercepts or records users actions. Adware inserts their own information in the data stream, overwriting links with their own links so they make money when users buy something on the internet, or spyware that records keystrokes or webpages visited, any number of pieces of info they try to make money from.

3: It uses its own technology to make money from other people's work, such as when it inserts its affiliate id in a link on ANY webmaster's website other than its own.

4: The launching of popups from the spyware often causes a machine to lock up, causing them to lose data, and inconvenience in having to reboot. Machines with multiple pieces of spyware, each launching their own popup, can cause even a high powered machine to become unusable. Latest example was a Pentium 4 3.0 ghz machine that had so much spyware on it, that it took me 2 hours to get it to a point where I could download some spyware removal software.

5: There is nothing good that can come of spyware, it should be illegal to produce it, maintain it and operate it.

Jimmy Daniels