

The Handbook of Privacy Studies

The Handbook of Privacy Studies

An Interdisciplinary Introduction

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Introduction

The background of this book

It was the beginning of 2010 when I (Bart) first joined the University of Amsterdam as a privacy researcher. What struck me immediately were two things: how interdisciplinary the topic of privacy was and how limited the interaction was between the different fields, disciplines, and researchers from the various faculties at the university. Out of personal interest and a desire to map the field of privacy, I decided to invite for coffee and formally interview over 50 colleagues about their privacy research. It brought me to the fields of medicine, anthropology, economy, political science, informatics, philosophy, law, sociology, communication science, psychology, and a couple more.

I think I failed miserably at grasping and properly describing everyone's research in the small report I made on the basis of the interviews. Although privacy was certainly the central theme, the role it played in the various disciplines, the methodology they used, and the types of questions scholars were trying to answer varied widely, not to mention the jargon. Some philosophers tried to define the universal value of privacy, while anthropologists and sociologists stressed its contextual and cultural nature; while political scientists viewed data as means of power and control, lawyers tended to see privacy as a right to be safeguarded from intrusions; in communication science and economy, personal information was seen primarily as an asset, while informaticians focused mainly on building secure and confidential information systems without any data leakage.

What became clear from the interviews was that each researcher felt that in order to properly discuss and answer research questions within his own field of research, he needed to have insight into aspects from other disciplines. People working at the informatics department, for example, built information systems in health care environments, and sought a better grasp of informational secrecy and doctor-patient confidentiality in order to properly design infrastructure. People at the medical department of the university called for more knowledge about the legal protection of patient data and the exception in law for using their data for scientific (medical) research. Faced with the different approaches in different countries and regions in the world, lawyers wanted to have more insights from the fields of sociology and anthropology. And people working within the latter disciplines often were more than interested in the ethical debates about values and principles underlying the right to privacy.

At the same time, people stressed that their knowledge of other fields and disciplines was limited. So I started organizing bimonthly research meetings, each time with two or three speakers from different backgrounds and disciplines, to discuss their research and get feedback from the audience and learn from each other. Gradually, we became more formal and structurally connected and Nico van Eijk (Faculty of Law), Guido van 't Noordende (Faculty of Science), until he left the university, Beate Roessler (Faculty of Humanities), Edo Roos Lindgreen (Faculty of Economics and Business), and I formed the spearhead leading the initiative now officially coined the Amsterdam Platform for Privacy Research (APPR).

We decided to organize public seminars and meetings, aimed at a broader audience. Although right now – at least in Europe – privacy is high on the political agenda, 2010 and 2011 were the years that 'I've got nothing to hide' and 'privacy is dead' dominated as slogans. We felt that it was necessary to explain in what ways privacy plays a role in many aspects in work and life. Doing so, APPR grew to be the organisation it is today – a network of more than 70 scholars at the University of Amsterdam that do research on aspects related to privacy.

We decided to expand and organized the Amsterdam Privacy Conference 2012 and the Amsterdam Privacy Conference 2015, which aimed to be a truly interdisciplinary conference, going beyond the many law and tech (sometimes with the inclusion of ethics) seminars and workshops already taking place. The Amsterdam Privacy Conference 2018 is being organized as we write this introduction. Finally, we felt that not only our own research community and the international research community would benefit from the interdisciplinary approach to privacy research, but students as well. I started the interdisciplinary privacy course, which after two years evolved into the minor Privacy Studies, which was attended by Aviva de Groot (the second editor of this book), who then took over the coordination of the minor programme.

Although my personal interest in privacy was already well developed during my earlier career in the film industry, I (Aviva) first engaged with privacy professionally when I entered legal practice. At that time, the European Commission had just issued its first communication on the reform of data protection law, and the focus on informational privacy had become predominant. The Amsterdam Minor Privacy Studies provided a timely programme promoting a broader and deeper understanding of a concept that was increasingly being discussed as nearing extinction.

The rich notions of privacy that interdisciplinary study offers easily resonate with lay conceptions that students develop earlier on in life. In my case,

the early 70's represented the late age of a 'social conventions battlefield', in a country where some families had already learned to shed their identities after the Second World War. My contemporaries and I explored the ruinous landscapes with both curiosity and vigilance. Just like confinement, we observed that exposure can both be life-ruining and life-threatening. Later, academic literature on privacy and the broad relevance of the principles that it addressed deepened my retrospective understanding. The feminist critiques and debates were of special relevance in their insights into the politics of privacy.

The first edition of the minor programme already took place in the 'I have nothing to hide' era. Students' traditional starting assignment was – and still is – to define and argue their individual notion of privacy. When I took over the coordination of the minor from Bart, I saw students surprised to find the solemn voice of law echoing some of their heartfelt notions. They were intrigued and curious about the law's lacunas, and its paternalistic potential. They were relieved to find there is no need to resort to law to sustain any argument, and that supposed dichotomies (like that of privacy versus security) could also be seen as interdependent relations. However, characterizations of privacy as (either/or) rights, freedoms, values, defined by breaches or by context, by ethical or cultural norms, narrowed down to intimate aspects or tradable data, often made for confusing discussions. In the afterhours of many a lecture, students confessed to being overwhelmed. The different vocabularies, academic cultures and methods of the disciplines, in addition to those of the students themselves, posed challenges to the conception of a cross-disciplinary, comprehensive understanding that they wanted to develop.

These discussions and other interdisciplinary teaching experiences partly informed the design of this book. And although it is called '*The Handbook of Privacy Studies*,' we aim to do justice to the diversity not only between, but also within the disciplines, which is reflected in the chapter's titles that present *a*, rather than *the* perspective from their discipline. We hope this book sustains the analysis of common understandings and differences, so that these can be taught in a meaningful way.

Why this book?

The reason to initiate and edit this book was to promote the interdisciplinary line of privacy research we had built over the past few years at the University of Amsterdam. It is also the combined result of our continued search for

an interdisciplinary *understanding* of privacy, and a way to share these insights with students of different disciplines. Since the idea for this book was developed during the discussions at APPR meetings and the minor programme, many of the authors are based in Amsterdam. Others have their roots there. Bart and Aviva now work at the Tilburg University, Willemijn Aerds and Gilliam Valk decided to move from the University of Amsterdam to Leiden University, and Matthijs Koot started working for a security firm. Still other authors were either teachers for the minor programme, such as Jo Pierson, students of the minor programme, such as Ine van Zeeland, or keynote speakers at the Amsterdam Privacy Conferences, such as Sandra Petronio, Deirdre Mulligan, Viktor Mayer-Schöberger, Anita Allen, and Amitai Etzioni. Some new faces also appear, such as Robin Pierce, Miko Hypponen, and Cas Sunstein.

This book is intended for three types of audiences:

- It is written for privacy researchers who are interested in other fields of research. Suppose you are a lawyer and are faced in your research with aspects of ethics and informatics – this book will provide you with a basic understanding of those disciplines and suggest further readings on specific topics that may be of interest to you. The chapters are written so that a researcher from every scientific background should be able to understand the disciplinary approach to privacy from every other academic discipline.
- It is written for students who are interested in privacy from a multidisciplinary background. It can be used as a basic textbook in interdisciplinary educational programmes such as the minor Privacy Studies. It can also be used for disciplinary courses of which privacy is one of the aspects. A chapter may be used to explain to a student what, among other themes and topics, the role of privacy is from the perspective of the discipline covered in that chapter.
- It is also written for a general audience interested in privacy. Privacy is in the news almost every day – Facebook and Cambridge Analytica, hacks and political profiling, medical research and big data technology, the General Data Protection Regulation, and mass surveillance by intelligence agencies, etc. This book will provide you with more background information about these developments and how to understand and properly evaluate them.

Privacy itself is a multidisciplinary phenomenon. A common ‘playground’ and language needs to be instated for researchers to present the role of privacy within their discipline, and the interdisciplinary value of their

knowledge to a common understanding of privacy. When Aviva and Ine presented the minor and its challenges at the National Interdisciplinary Education Conference, the need for something that could be conceptualized as ‘a handbook’ was shared widely. Calls included ‘a red thread’, ‘oversight’, ‘tables with aspects’, ‘a reader for teachers’, ‘creative examinations’, and ‘strictly structured lecture schemes’.

This book caters to some of these needs. It is the first book that makes an earnest attempt at bringing together some of the most important disciplinary approaches in the field of privacy in a comprehensive way. Nevertheless, it is only a first scan and a selection of relevant disciplines. We already envisage a second edition that includes fields that were also part of the minor and that we are eager to incorporate, such as psychology, sociology, architecture, internet studies, and political science. This first edition contains chapters on history, law, ethics, economy, informatics, intelligence studies, archival studies, medicine, media studies, communication studies, and anthropology. We asked each author to provide the reader with an introduction to her field of research, the role privacy plays within that discipline, to introduce the reader to the classic texts that have helped shape that discipline, and to map the debates and schools that have been dominant over the past few decades. Finally, we have asked them to list a number of questions on their current research agenda (or that of their peers) – what are the difficult challenges, what burning dilemmas are provoked by new technological developments, and what unresolved issues remain to be addressed by scholars? Each chapter concludes with a few suggestions for further reading.

Between those chapters, introducing the disciplinary approaches to privacy, we have added small snippets and reflections by famous authors and defining intellectuals in the field of privacy. We are honoured to have a star line-up of Priscilla Regan, Beate Roessler, Cass Sunstein, Miko Hyponen, Charles Raab, Amitai Etzioni, Robin Pierce, Kenneth Bamberger, Deirdre Mulligan, Viktor Mayer-Schönberger, and Anita Allen. Like soloists to the orchestra, these voices lead but also resonate with the score produced through the combined effort of the book’s authors.

After all these years, our interdisciplinary privacy research meetings frequently result in discussions about what a person precisely means to say, or why certain research questions are valid at all. Although some researchers have seized the opportunity to work together and expand to multi- or interdisciplinary research, most are still clearly centred in their own field of research. In part, this stems from the perception that what is considered to be essential research, ground-breaking research, works that attract funding and positions, are still mostly disciplinary. We were

therefore quite surprised to be faced with quite the opposite problem upon receiving the first draft chapters. We had specifically asked authors to keep to their own discipline. To introduce it, to explain what role privacy plays within it, what debates about privacy exist in their discipline and in their specific research. Almost every author took an interdisciplinary or at least multidisciplinary approach. Had they finally come to, had we asked them to revive old habits? We were especially surprised that many authors chose to discuss legal aspects – either laws, codes of conducts, case law, or specifically legal authors such as Warren & Brandeis. Perhaps it reflects the character of present-day privacy research.

Content of this book

The first chapter is on history, written by Ronald Kroeze and Sjoerd Keulen. They argue that the history of privacy shows that privacy is an ever-changing and context-dependent phenomenon. As such, opportunities for and threats to privacy are highly related to broader societal developments. Several of these broader developments are being distinguished and discussed and we briefly sum them up here. First, changing morals, cultural and religious ideas about the individual, family, household, and ‘natural’ relationships have had an effect on individual privacy. Second, privacy has been influenced throughout history by political changes, especially the rise of the idea of private individual rights and the acceptance of an individual sphere that the state, society, and legal system should respect and protect. Furthermore, the development of liberal-democracies – with individual freedom and the non-interference principle as its core values – and the internationalization of human rights in the past decades, have had a big impact on the politics and history of privacy. Finally, as the first but certainly not the only chapter to address the fact that technological changes, especially in the field of infrastructure, media, and communication, have had and will have great impact on privacy matters. For those that started the book (and the chapter) expecting a definite overview of the history of privacy, the chapter may serve as a ‘training phase’: rather than provide accounts and definitions, the chapters of this book afford insight into the disciplinary lives of privacy, and how each discipline takes care of the subject.

A snippet by professor Priscilla Regan introduces her seminal text *Legislating Privacy: Technology, Social Values, and Public Policy* (1995), in which she argued that privacy is not only of value to the individual but to society in general as well. She also suggested three bases for the social importance of

privacy: its common value, its public value, and its collective value. Her thinking about privacy as a social value was informed both by the philosophical and legal writing at the time, as well as by legislative politics and processes in the United States that sought to protect a 'right to privacy'. She concluded that the individualistic conception of privacy, popular in the 1960s and 1970s, did not provide a fruitful basis for the formulation of privacy protective policy. When privacy is regarded as being of social importance, she argued, different policy discourse and interest alignments are likely to follow. Regan's text provides a natural bridge from broader social/societal understanding of privacy to commencing to learn about the subject in more legal detail.

The second chapter is written by Bart van der Sloot. He explains that rather recently, privacy has been incorporated into human rights instruments such as the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights. The European Court of Human Rights has granted the right to privacy, provided under Article 8 ECHR, a very broad scope, covering almost every aspect of a person's life. The EU Charter of Fundamental Rights contains a right to data protection, in addition to a right to privacy. Data protection is regulated in the EU by the General Data Protection Regulation. The GDPR provides detailed rules on how and when data controllers may legitimately process personal data of citizens. Famous rules include the purpose limitation, data minimalization and storage limitation principle, the right to be forgotten, the right to resist profiling, and the obligation to perform data protection impact assessments. We have put this chapter in the front row for various reasons. One is the earlier mentioned fact that the legal discourse is particularly big, broad and growing. Another is that several authors expressed the wish to refer to this chapter directly, to avoid conceptualizing legislative aspects in theirs. That is why this chapter is substantially bigger than the other ones; it provides a point of reference for the other disciplines.

The next snippet is written by Beate Roessler, who discusses her widely cited book *The Value of Privacy*. In this book, she discusses three dimensions of privacy: locational privacy, informational privacy, and decisional privacy. She argues that conceptions of privacy based upon a concept of autonomy or individual freedom provide the most interesting and forward-looking possibilities for a conceptualization of the term. The three dimensions – not realms, not spaces – of privacy serve to protect, facilitate, and effectuate individual liberties in a variety of respects. Freedom-oriented theories of privacy are to be found within the whole range of theories of privacy, from those that deal with the privacy of (intimate) actions to those concerned with informational privacy or the privacy of the household.

The third chapter, dealing with the ethical perspective, logically follows. It is written by Marijn Sax. As both society and technology are constantly developing and changing, he argues, we are also confronted with a constant reconfiguration of norms that regulate what we may know of each other, what we may see of each other, what places we may enter, what information we may share, and what private decisions we may (try to) influence. Many of the theories discussed are an attempt to (1) make sense of these shifting norms, and (2) suggest how we *should*, ideally, understand and enforce privacy norms. Marijn Sax explains, inter alia, the difference in ethics between access-based and control-based approaches to privacy.

At this stage in the book, where privacy-as-autonomy has been properly introduced, a following snippet is presented by Cass Sunstein, who offers a general introduction to the idea of ‘nudging’, the theory of manipulating people’s choices to serve their own well being. A list of the most important ‘nudges’ illustrates the practice. Nudging was made famous by the book *Nudge* he wrote together with Richard Thaler. The snippet also provides a short discussion of the question whether to create some kind of separate ‘behavioural insights unit’, capable of conducting its own research, or instead to rely on existing institutions. The snippet is followed by a chapter on a discipline that addresses the costs and benefits to privacy of the actors on either side of the nudging (and other) business, and takes an economical perspective.

This fourth chapter is written by Edo Roos Lindgreen. The chapter explores an economical approach to privacy. Roos Lindgreen identifies and clarifies various factors of influence on the economics of privacy in the digital age. As it turns out, it is relatively easy to identify positive economic factors (benefits) and negative economic factors (costs) of privacy for individuals, organizations, and society at large. For individuals, controlling the disclosure of personal data has significant direct benefits, but also leads to opportunity costs: the indirect costs of not being able to enjoy other benefits. For private and public organizations, collecting and using personal data leads to significant economic benefits; prohibiting them from doing so will erode their competitive advantage and incur opportunity costs. For society at large, however, the situation is quite unclear.

The next snippet by IT-expert Miko Hypponen takes a leap into the architecture beneath the applications and techniques at play in the former chapter. Hypponen argues that the Internet wasn’t built for security or privacy. We built it first and have had to play catch-up to secure it afterwards and are still working on that, all the time. Unfortunately, the Internet of Things was not ‘built’ for security either. But it’s not too late. We need to

take the Internet of Things' security seriously, and do it now, before the problems caused by neglecting it become too difficult to handle. By now, some of these problems are (un)fortunately foreseeable.

The former snippet introduced an important subject, and maybe the hardest one to present in a way that serves all envisaged categories of readers: the informatics perspective. Matthijs Kootand Cees de Laat, working at the University of Amsterdam, have taken it upon themselves to author the chapter. They explain how ICT poses privacy challenges, and how privacy poses ICT challenges. Selected topics relating to both perspectives are discussed. From a technical perspective, cryptography, PETs, and access controls are building blocks for privacy and data protection. They discuss the various challenges of building secure and safe systems and networks. The chapter is salient in a time where governments are intensively exploring the use of these techniques, directly and indirectly funding developments, and taking sides in the ensuing public discourse on privacy that in the process frequently narrows down to data protection. Which takes us naturally to the subjects of politics and intelligence studies.

Charles Raab activates the appropriate mental muscles in his snippet, where he argues that contributions to the study of information privacy issues can be grounded in empirical research and analytical approaches derived from the discipline of political science. Moreover, research and commentary on other dimensions of privacy besides the informational one serve to broaden the field and constructively blur the boundary that has developed between information privacy and other domains of privacy: e.g. the body, public and private space, thoughts and movement. Governance and regulatory regimes (including the law) and policy activity for these other objects of study could also be investigated as part of the analysis.

The fifth chapter logically follows with the intelligence perspective on privacy, written by Willemijn Aerdts and Gilliam Valk. They suggest that next to the rather 'technical' debate about the degree to which intelligence- and security services are allowed to invade personal space and infringe upon the right of privacy, there is a debate on how services are to actively protect civilians and their personal rights. Data mining is an important instrument of intelligence- and security services. Being able to collect, process, and analyse big data and the search for suspicious correlations seem to be indispensable to avert threats. Henceforth, an adequate oversight is of utmost importance. As shown in this chapter, this relates to the position of services and their special power in the democratic legal order (proportionality), the confidence and trust society has in the services, and the prevention of the abuse of special powers.

Amitai Etzioni has given these matters ample thought and has provided analyses throughout his career. In this snippet, he shows that in order to maintain privacy in the cyber age, boundaries on information that may be used by the government should be considered along three major dimensions: (1) the level of sensitivity of the information; (2) the volume of information collected; and (3) the extent of cybernation. These considerations guide one to find the lowest level of intrusiveness while holding the level of common good constant. A society ought to tolerate more intrusiveness if there are valid reasons to hold that the threat to the public has significantly increased (e.g. there is a pandemic), and reassert a lower level of intrusiveness when such a threat has subsided.

From the field of security, the book turns to two other disciplines in which the need to limit privacy is a central element: archival sciences and medicine.

The sixth chapter is written by Tjeerd Schiphof, who discusses the relationship between archival studies and privacy. He explains how Privacy issues are salient in the archival field. For example, individuals might experience harm because of the fact that certain materials will be stored for the long term, and so can be accessed during their lifetime. The archival institutions, private and governmental, and individual archivists have considerable responsibilities in this respect, especially at certain stages in the archival process. Schiphof explains how archivists need to navigate a sometimes complex field of law, professional ethics and national and international standards, and how these are challenged by the affordances of new technologies.

This is followed by the introduction to another field where professional ethics play an important role, and where much is asked from individual practitioners and of the field as a whole. In her snippet, Robin Pierce discusses privacy from a medical perspective. She stresses the importance of intersecting normative strands of medical privacy, derived from different sources, to form a set of norms designed to protect a bundle of interests that is essential to the maintenance of an effective healthcare system that encourages and protects appropriate care-seeking and treatment. Whether and how technological changes in the collection, storage, and processing of data affect the construct of medical privacy is a pressing question. Just as a bell cannot be unringed, erosion of the sphere of medical privacy is unlikely to be restored. The eager embrace of technological innovation such as big data, machine learning, AI, eHealth, data sharing, essentially forming a virtual explosion of connectedness is likely to present challenges to the construct of medical privacy. She argues for the teleological basis for medical privacy and suggests that at least one aspect of evaluating and potentially

remediating instances of erosion is assessing the impact on the ability of the current construct of medical privacy to achieve its objectives.

In the seventh chapter, Wouter Koelewijn channels this focus of medical privacy to explore in depth the data protection norms and regulations at play in healthcare relationships. He underlines the high importance of privacy and data protection in this sector, and addresses the challenges of bridging legal complications and contradictions that entail the right to privacy and doctor-patient confidentiality, especially in light of the development of electronic information systems for the storage of medical data – and in those of e-Health, big data, and artificial intelligence in healthcare. Changes in the perceptions of patients and physicians vis-à-vis each other and adaptations of the data-protection concepts seem inevitable.

In an interesting follow-up after discussing the interplay of law and professional ethics, Kenneth Bamberger and Deirdre Mulligan suggest in their snippet that for too long, scholarship and advocacy around privacy regulation has focused almost entirely on law ‘on the books’ – legal texts enacted by legislatures or promulgated by agencies. By contrast, the debate has surprisingly ignored privacy ‘on the ground’ – the ways in which those who collect and control data in different countries have (or have not) operationalized privacy protection in the light of divergent formal laws, decisions made by local administrative agencies, and other jurisdiction-specific social, cultural, and legal forces. They introduce their influential book, *Privacy on the ground*.

Having made the shift from the books and to the ground, we continue to focus on human interaction, and how this is increasingly mediated, influencing many privacy aspects. The eighth chapter, written by Jo Pierson and Ine van Zeeland, discusses the field of media studies. They argue that given the transition from social media to online platforms, the media-studies perspective generates a uniquely interdisciplinary insight into how these digital media and society mutually articulate each other. This is particularly relevant as these media and technologies are penetrating all fibres of society, from social communication to domains like health, education, mobility, urban life, and smart cities. Consequently, the need to investigate and address fundamental public values like privacy and data protection from a media and communications perspective will only increase. Media are thereby interpreted in a broad sense, namely as technological tools that mediate the interaction between people. After this chapter, it is high time to re-visit the players that make these mediated communications possible, and how they do it.

Viktor Mayer-Schönberger, famous for many books such as *Big Data* and *Delete*, argues in his snippet that today's data-rich markets are mostly online (because of the very low transaction cost of information flows online) and run by private companies. Amazon operates a data-rich market, and so do Google, Apple, Facebook, Alibaba, etc., but also current niche players such as Airbnb or Spotify. Consumers prefer such marketplaces because of the superior matching experience compared to most conventional markets, enabling them to share information with their peers, the other market 'customers'. But for this matching to happen, they also have to share their information with the market providers. Market providers are the central conduit and know everything about everyone on the market that can be gleaned online. This is a tremendous (and potentially troubling) concentration of power.

A large part of this market consists of (or incorporates elements from) what is known as 'social media' or 'social networks' – platforms for people to exchange information. Where they communicate. The ninth chapter is written by Sandra Petronio, who writes about privacy in communication sciences. She stresses that the nature of privacy has long been a part of the human condition, yet, our attention to this important aspect of life, where individuals need both privacy and the ability to be social with others is in constant need of new discoveries. A mission of communication privacy management theory is to bring new insights into this phenomenon. The mission is to push these ideas further and help others to advance their interests in privacy inquiries. Petronio has developed the Communication Privacy Management Theory, which helps to understand privacy challenges and provides for teaching tools and devising ways to translate research into meaningful practice to help others.

This dual manifestation of privacy in 'freedom from' and 'freedom to' has been extensively analysed by Anita Allen, the author of the tenth and final snippet. The title refers to her ground-breaking book: *Uneasy Access: Privacy for Women in a Free Society*. This was not only the first book-length treatment of privacy by a philosopher to focus on women, it was the first book-length treatment by an academic philosopher to focus on *any* aspect of privacy. The work was a response both to the academic debates about the meaning and value of privacy found in analytic-style philosophy journals; and to feminist critiques of privacy emanating from many disciplines. While conceding that women have historically lived their lives as ancillaries and inferiors, Allen argued in *Uneasy Access* that they have had 'too much of the wrong kind of privacy'. After this, we zoom out for the last time to explore

other(s) social practices and to what extent these are being studied and analysed as privacy practices – or from a privacy perspective to begin with.

The tenth and final chapter is written by Sjaak van der Geest and engages with an anthropological perspective on privacy. He argues that the old definitions and concepts of privacy still provide fruitful starting points for the exploration of meanings and experiences around privacy, in varying social and cultural settings. The chapter shows privacy as a dynamic process of having control over what one wants to share with selected others, and what not. Importantly, he points out that there is a relative neglect of privacy described as such by anthropologists, although working in other cultures and living closely with their interlocutors confronted them with striking differences in local managements and experiences of privacy. Observations about this however remained largely implicit in their ethnographic work. These indirect allusions to privacy can be found in debates about shame, social manners, witchcraft, family life, stigmatization (HIV/AIDS), gossip, secrets, lying, and disgust.

We hope that this book will help researchers around the globe to understand each other's disciplines and inspire interdisciplinary privacy research. We hope that students will find in the Handbook of Privacy Studies a reliable and intelligible introduction in to the enormous world of privacy research, and that it enables them to use the knowledge it contains in their careers. Finally, we hope that this book will help anyone interested in the subject, to gain a better grasp of privacy, to critically reflect on its role in current society. We hope you enjoy reading *The Handbook of Privacy Studies!*

Bart van der Sloot & Aviva de Groot