

## DH1001 Assignment 1

### A Domain of One's Own

Upon reading the piece on why “A domain of one’s own” matters, I too was in a similar position to those who critique the message. I didn’t truly understand the value of a website made by oneself, for oneself. As I began to delve further into the piece, I realised how important a private, personal space is. I now agree with the writer in that a “domain of one’s own” is somewhere one can feel at home, having a website customized to their liking. There is great freedom with this but also a sense of security which I believe to be a very important point.

The idea of our personal data being “taken”<sup>1</sup> and the fact it is out of our control has been addressed quite often. I see eye to eye with the writer when she states this is something which should concern us all. I also agree to an extent with the writer on the point of security and how privacy can be controlled on a personal website. Things can become password protected and you can “license things as you like.”<sup>2</sup> However, it appears as if the writer almost encourages to put information on a website even if slightly personal. She justifies this by suggesting things can be “password protected”<sup>3</sup> but this is not always a reliable security feature.

As long as it is used wisely, I do believe a domain of ones own is extremely useful opting as a place to “cultivate”<sup>4</sup> ideas and used as one’s own space.

### The Virtual Revolution

The video “The Virtual Revolution” was quite intriguing to me. The main point that struck me was the fact the internet was essentially created due to the American Defence setting up ARPANET. This was quite captivating for me as no one seemed to foresee billions of users all communicating and acquiring information through the internet in the near future.

The journalist describes the importance of packet switching and the overall security measures in place to keep the network active and running. I agree with the fact these are extremely vital for how the internet operates and functions as a whole. A key point in the video is when Vint Cerf is interviewed and discusses how the internet has no “central control”<sup>5</sup>. I believe this to be an important point as it shows the complexity of the structure of the internet. One cannot simply destroy the internet by targeting a specific area. Instead there are multiple route servers which could still operate communicating with themselves.

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<sup>1</sup> Tim Berners Lee, Web Foundation (12<sup>th</sup> March 2018)

<sup>2</sup> Audrey Watters, “Why a domain of one’s own matters” (4<sup>th</sup> April 2017)

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<sup>5</sup> BBC, “The Virtual Revolution” (YouTube) <https://youtu.be/N4cvwif1AGQ>