

## ODNI Review Group Comments

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There have been many developments since 2001 that undermine the trust of the American people in their government, but none is as pervasive and all-encompassing as the mass gathering of data without due process or any hint of wrong-doing on the part of those whose data is being gathered. Whether it is full communications, or "just" metadata, the information reveals far more about the people it originates from than just the number they were calling. The information discloses locations, travel (over time), habits and schedules. All of these things can be helpful in locating and arresting terrorists and other criminals, but should not be gathered on any one whose activities do not provide enough information to justify a warrant.

This mass gathering of data does not just undermine the trust of citizens. It undermines the trust of businesses seeking to do business in the U.S. as well as foreign governments seeking to treat with us. If they cannot know their communications are free from unjustified monitoring, they cannot be secure in their U.S. business dealings.

Last, the U.S. Constitution prohibits unreasonable searches and seizures. It states that searches should be limited in scope with probable cause. The current data gathering activities are anything but limited in scope, and require no cause at all. No criminal activity is required, the only requirement is that you use some type of modern communication technology.

This program has gone way beyond acceptable and legal. It is unacceptable, and the value over traditional methods is debatable. It is time to put a stop to it.