

Snowden's Material was Just the Tip of the Iceberg: The Situation is Actually Worse than You Think

[Paul Rosenberg](#), Editor, *A Free Man's Take*
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A note from Pastor Kevin Lea follows this article.

Dear Reader,

You were probably troubled by the Snowden revelations. They were, after all, disturbing and insulting. But there is, sadly, more to the story. Mass surveillance was just the first step, and it gets uglier from there.

Honestly, I'd rather not write about what's bad in the world; I'd rather build a better world and leave the bad to collapse of its own weight. Nonetheless, there is a time to warn about the things that threaten us, and I think this is one of those times.

So, this week I'm addressing a very serious danger that is running wild on the Internet... a realm that I care very much about. Also in this issue, Doug French will discuss the coming changes in currencies—in particular, the changeover from dollars to “special drawing rights” as the world's reserve currency.

What most people don't know about the Snowden revelations is that they were mostly old hacker tricks. They were souped up with lots of money, of course, and enjoyed the help of insiders at tech companies, but they were nonetheless hacker tricks. If you noticed the dates on his slides, they were mainly from several years ago: 2007, 2008, and so on.

It's no secret that the NSA has been trying to hire hackers for a long time. (You can read [its pitch to hackers](#), and a [story from a hacker convention](#).) So the Snowden revelations, welcome as they were, concerned mostly old techniques. And the NSA, the British Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ), and the rest (including their allies in the tech business) have not been sitting still in the meantime.

I know this because I manage [one of the leading companies](#) in the data privacy business. We deal with these issues on a daily basis. Before Snowden, I spent a lot of time traveling around the world, making speeches, telling people what the NSA, FBI, CIA, Google, Facebook, and the rest of the gang were doing. Most of the people I spoke to believed I was sincere, but a lot of them thought I was going a bit overboard, trying to sell my product. After Snowden, that changed of course, but now we face a new issue: *it's still a lot worse than people understand*.

The Secret Facebook Experiment

In January of 2012—approaching three years ago—[Facebook ran a secret experiment](#) on 689,000 of its users. The purpose of that experiment was to see if the company could change those peoples' moods by altering their news feeds. And it worked. The results of the experiment concluded that “emotional states can be transferred to others via emotional contagion, leading people to experience the same emotions without their awareness.” By the way, the US Army was one of the groups which funded the experiment. Interesting bedfellows, no?

That government agents are influencing people online has been known for some time (see [here](#) and [here](#)), though most people have never been informed of those facts. Most, in fact, have never even heard about the [publicly stated wishes of Cass Sunstein](#). These things are not really secrets... they're just never included in the big news feeds.

The Facebook experiment—while only one of what are certainly many such events—is important because it shows the direction in which things are moving... leading straight to individualized manipulation.

Mass surveillance is only the first step in a larger process. Once you have all of that information, what are you going to do with it? Leaving it sit really isn't an attractive option for either the tech companies or the military-intelligence complex. The most obvious use of that information is to manipulate people. Please don't allow yourself to think that spies and advertisers would hold back from manipulating people; we all know better than that.

Why They're Manipulating Us

There are compelling reasons why the data thieves must manipulate us:

The tech companies:

Internet users worldwide are addicted to the free service model. Say “free” and they'll line up; ask for pay and they'll walk away.

So how are tech companies supposed to pay their employees, if their customers won't pay? Well, they found a slick answer to that problem: monetize the users' lives... turn their private information into money.

When you use a free service, you're giving the company no choice but to steal your data (and the more intimate, the more valuable), then to sell it. When you use a free service, *you are the product*. (If you don't pay, you're certainly not the customer!)

The spies:

The various spy agencies will always grab and use your information for one overriding reason: *they're afraid that if they don't, someone else will*.

The NSA is hardly the only data-theft gang around. They may be the biggest and best funded, but the others follow behind, learn their tricks, and play the same games. So if the US Intel boys want to keep their edge, they have to use everything they can.

How They Manipulate

You've been seeing primitive manipulations for some time. For example, when you do an online search on “skis,” you'll instantly get ads for discount travel to ski resorts that are near you or that you've previously expressed an interest in.

That was kindergarten level. What comes next is *proactive* rather than *reactive*, and it's much, much worse. The data thieves are now creating ...

To read this article in its entirety, go to: <http://www.caseyresearch.com/cdd/snowdens-material-was-just-tip-of-iceberg-situation-actually-worse-than-you>

Monetary One World Order

[Doug French](#), Contributing Editor

When you mumbled the Pledge of Allegiance in grade school, you likely didn't think you'd grow up to be taxed to death and a pawn in central-banker economic chess games. If you're old enough, the dimes and quarters you did chores for were silver. You heard there was gold in Fort Knox backing US greenbacks, making them so very precious. Your parents didn't know who was running America's central bank or what the central bank did, for that matter.

Now, Fed chairs are maestros and persons of the year. The current chair, Dr. Yellen, would be in line to be similarly worshipped, but she, Mario Draghi, and the other central bankers of the world may begin taking marching orders from even higher powers.

Today's Fed watchers should train their eyes on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to get an idea who will bail out the bailouts. The likes of IMF deputy managing director Dr. Min Zhu could make Yellen and Draghi yesterday's news in the coming financial crash and ensuing monetary one world order. After all, these competing currencies are so messy, as economist Robert Mundell would say, "The optimum currency area is the world"...

...People may associate the IMF with loans to poor countries, but over 80% of its loans, according to the financial statements for the year ended April 30, 2014, are to Ireland, Greece, and Portugal.

The fund's total credit outstanding has ramped up considerably, from 9.8 billion SDRs in 2008 to over 10 times that amount—99.7 billion SDRs in 2012—reflecting credit to prop up the countries that could have taken down European banks. President Obama urged Congress to approve US funding of \$100 billion to the IMF in 2009, indicating the money would go to developing and emerging-market countries. Instead, in addition to European and US banks being propped up, Rickards writes, "taxpayer money would be used to bail out Greek bureaucrats who retired at age fifty with lifetime pensions, while Americans were working past seventy to make ends meet."

A special drawing right [SDR] is a potential claim on the freely usable currencies of IMF members. While the SDR has always been a fiat currency, its value was initially defined as equivalent to 0.888671 grams of fine gold—which at the time was also equivalent to one US dollar. When the Bretton Woods system collapsed in 1973, the SDR was redefined as a basket of currencies. Today it consists of the euro, Japanese yen, pound sterling, and US dollar.

Some experts say the SDR isn't money, but it is very much a currency that can be used among participating countries... money created only for the world's elite and can be created in abundance if the need arises. The ensuing inflation would show up in the usual places—gas stations and grocery stores—with the cause safely hidden away. As the IMF "is a self-perpetuating supranational organization," explains Rickards, "the buck would stop nowhere." Kenneth Dam wrote in his history of the IMF that some called SDRs "manna from heaven."

Rickards points out that SDRs have been issued during periods of dollar weakness, but the IMF has ambitions to have the SDR replace the dollar as the world's reserve currency. Further SDR creation and the issuing of bonds denominated in SDR creating a deeper more liquid market are on the IMF's drawing board. The 2009 issuance, at over 182 billion SDR (only 204 billion in total have been issued since the IMF's inception) was a test drive toward greater ambitions.

If you're still confused by SDRs, Dr. Zhu explains them with more candor than your typical central banker. "They are fake money, but they are a kind of fake money that can be real money."

So what's this fake money *cum* real money for? To slay the deflation dragon that keeps all central bankers awake at night. The IMF Articles of Agreement state that the allocation of SDRs "shall seek to meet the long-term global need, as and when it arises, to supplement existing reserve assets in such manner as will ... avoid ... deflation."

Oh, and if a few central and big commercial banks get bailed out along the way, all the better.

Global debt and derivative and monetary levels are building to create a cataclysmic crash beyond what the central banks can paper over. When it happens, the IMF will act on Rahm Emanuel's famous advice, "You never let a serious crisis go to waste. And what I mean by that it's an opportunity to do things you think you could not do before."

Bye-bye dollar; hello SDR...

A Free-Man's Take is written by adventure capitalist, author, and freedom advocate Paul Rosenberg. You can get much more from Paul in his unique monthly newsletter, [Free-Man's Perspective](#).

To read this article in its entirety, go to: <http://www.caseyresearch.com/cdd/snowdens-material-was-just-tip-of-iceberg-situation-actually-worse-than-you>

Note from Pastor Kevin Lea:

Some may question whether these authors are being too sensational. I do not. Some may be anxious after reading this, I am not. Jesus told us these things would come about in the last days and then He warned us not to be anxious, but to instead keep our eyes on Him and the blessed hope that He has promised us.

"Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near." Luke 21:28 NKJV

*For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, **looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ**, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. Titus 2:11-14 NKJV*

*"**Let not your heart be troubled**; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. John 14:1-3 NKJV*

*"These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. **Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.** John 14:25-27 NKJV*