

Date/Subject: July 8, 2020 Ted Talk –The Future of Digital Communication and Privacy by Will Cathcart

https://www.ted.com/talks/will_cathcart_the_future_of_digital_communication_and_privacy

Key Points

Will Cathcart is the Head of WhatsApp

Discussion centered on WhatsApp's 'end to end encryption' and will/is there the need for more secure measures as governments and businesses become increasingly are reliant on digital technology.

Encrypted communication is critically important for governments to communicate with one another (domestic/global) reliance

COVID-19 has changed technology's purpose and value. Correspondence we THOUGHT we needed to do face-to-face can be effectively covered digitally.

I feel that we have much to learn and technology needs to further advance to satisfy the appetite of our students eager to be among their peers in a classroom setting.

Notes

Due to COVID-19, the guest was struck by the fact that they had to hold this talk 'digitally'

The host and guest for the preparation never met in person, although they felt they had.

WhatsApp has 2 billion active users, 100 billion messages per day.

This leads to the concern that some may choose to share these encrypted messages for the wrong reasons and breach the trust. The question posed 'Is this just a trade-off for now having the value of encoded messaging?'

Will Cathcart believes that a balance to address the above question is possible. Detections are in place – the team is at the ready to intervene.

Inappropriate images and messaging is reported to authorities.

At 9:19, the host went to questions from the 'community' and spoke further about balancing privacy and the risk of the spread of misinformation. This is addressed by WhatsApp by changing the 'product' and indicating that it is private and it is secure.

Another question posed. What will be the transformational and longer-term impact of COVID 19 on technological use in our daily lives?