

# IU ETHICS, VALUES & TECH:

Developing Character for a Digital World Series

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## Nowhere to Hide: Data, Cyberspace and the Dangers of the Digital World

Talk presented by

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For as long as software has been relied upon, officials and researchers alike have been sounding alarm bells about the vulnerability of all our data—sometimes comically, but nonetheless gravely. Here, for example, is how one Congressional report described the issue of data security: "If architects built buildings the way programmers build programs, then the first woodpecker to appear would destroy civilization." This was in 1989.

Examples of these types of warnings are not hard to find—not because such prognostications require such foresight, but because it is not all that hard to be right about the risks of digital technologies. Their dangers are plentiful, and we use them more and more.

Yet layered underneath all our profound privacy and security vulnerabilities, there are also three much less obvious effects of these trends, which form the basis of this essay: Privacy is dead. So is trust. And you're not who you think you are.

After I overview each trend, I will make a handful of concrete suggestions about what we can and should do to address each development—as lawyers, as policymakers, and as citizens around the world. The sky may seem like it is falling in cyberspace, I will argue, and with good reason, but it need not fall as fast nor land as hard.

Background Paper: [Nowhere to Hide: Data, Cyberspace, and the Dangers of the Digital World](#) by Andrew Burt, Yale Law School Information Society Project, Digital Future white paper, 2020

**March 11, 2021 1 pm ET**

**Virtual Webinar via Zoom**

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