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Describe the legal requirements and ethical principles involved in managing physical and digital information assets and the information professional's role in institutional compliance and risk management.

Interpretation

As information proliferates, so does the demand for regulation. Like any potential product garnering popularity and renown, regulations and limitations are suggested by institutions that are concerned about the new products' risk possibilities. In this specific case, we have information which is spreading quicker than wildfires in California. One of the most common conversations that is being had with this development is the conversation between security and accessibility. We are focusing on accessibility on this platform because it is that element that is drawing attention to these regulations.

Accessibility has always been a desired element when it comes to information because it gives us closure, confidence, and composure when we have all the information. Ignorance is often generated by a lack of accessible knowledge and resources, and the former is often not considered when it comes to cost and risk evaluations. That is a significant mistake to make as the information that is often neglected turns out to be the most essential. That is often why crucial mistakes occur, like the Yahoo security breach of 2012 that was not reported until 2016 (Leonhardt, 2020) or the more recently reported Facebook breach of 2017.

Normally after such controversial events there are legal responses either on a federal level or by private organizations. A very popular example starts at the beginning of the 21st century where Enron had committed a large spoliation act that included shredding as many financial documents they could before auditors could analyze them. This promoted a federal response in the form of the Sarbanes Oxley act of 2002 which required companies to have budget auditors from outside the company to have access to their financial records to prevent this from happening again. There have been legal responses for Facebook, but they have not been as prevalent as the one for Enron. Many have asked why.

The answer for that may have to do with the information that was compromised and the risks that would come from making a legal case against companies like Facebook. In the case of Enron, the only individuals who had suffered were individuals in the company, primarily the stockholders and the employees. With the data breach of Facebook, it affected approximately 50 million and it is difficult to say how many of those were individuals were employed by Facebook other than Mark Zuckerberg himself who had his account compromised.

Evidence

MARA 210 Discussion 9

This was the discussion about spoliation and the significance of the Enron shredding of documents. Our topic was about privacy and records and how the concept can be detrimental as well as beneficial. Like any resource it can potentially be beneficial, but also can be harmful if used improperly. Increased

security does not guarantee protection of assets. In this discussion I explained what happened when you make something far too secure instead of accessible.

MARA 210 Record Retention Schedule

I wanted to learn about the difficult process of developing a retention schedule so I could see why many companies were reluctant to have the policies in place to enforce them. I decided to use my home office as a template as I wanted to see how a home environment could benefit from this procedure. While I initially thought this project would be a difficult procedure, it was significantly easier than I had predicted. I also learned about the different record types and the stages of the lifecycle they progressed through before they reached disposition. It also came to me that companies must have more difficulties in disposition because of events like Enron's shredding.

MARA 249 Social Media in Business

This is a paper that I wrote about social media's influence on changing the setting for policy keeping and our new approach on how we view data. Information travels at such an accelerated rate that it is almost implausible not to have sent something on accident and realize that you cannot delete it. Having a photograph in your room vs available to the public creates a new risk. Your photograph is safe at home; risks vary with the storage location. A photograph on a social media platform has been accessible to anyone you enabled and indefinitely to Facebook.

Conclusion

We have been given a difficult task. Working with legal to handle physical assets is one thing because you can take the appropriate measures to recover or insure the property. Once your personal information is taken, that is it. Your information is now on the black market for scammers to utilize and take advantage of. The best policy for the latter issue is to primarily educate individuals into reducing what information they release not just on social media platforms but also to their former employers or their communities. Archivists already know what happens when information is taken out of context, and the proliferation of information increases that chance.

References

Leonhardt, M. (2020, February 6). *If you got an email about the \$117.5 million Yahoo data breach settlement, here are your options*. CNBC. <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/02/06/what-to-do-if-you-got-email-from-yahoo-about-a-data-breach-settlement.html>