

# Process Paper

When we were looking for a topic, we thought it was important to find something with three main factors: firstly, we wanted it to be able to relate to many people, so that we could engage with more people. Secondly, we made sure that it related to the NHD 2024-2025 theme Rights and Responsibilities. Lastly, we wanted it to be creative and enjoyable to work on, for it to feel more like an opportunity than an obligation. We found that digital privacy is an important right for many, and the world would not be the same without the laws and acts put in place to help. We narrowed our topic down to the Privacy Act of 1974, an important act that brought the US closer to full data privacy. The Privacy Act of 1974 relates to rights and responsibilities because of everyone's right to keep data private and the government and corporation's responsibility to protect that right.

We conducted our research by reading various books, articles, and reviewing historical videos to help us deepen our understanding of the events that led up to the Privacy Act of 1974, why it was important, how it came to be, and why it was important. We also found real life examples of the Privacy Act and other related acts that further proved how the Privacy Act of 1974 and other acts impacted by it were significant, both in the past, the present, and the future.

We created our project by using the NHD website software to create an enjoyable and attention-grabbing exhibition. We used the navigation buttons and auto navigation features to make the website more navigable. We tried to keep the design simple yet still eye catching, and to keep the coloration fitting of the theme.

At a time when technology and storing data in the digital world was becoming more common, the privacy of many citizens' data and information was at risk. Data privacy was a weak spot that caused multiple different laws to be enacted, including the Privacy Act of 1974. The immediate impact of this act was that the government and other corporations had the responsibility to give citizens the right to access the data collected on them and the ability to change it. The Privacy Act set the precedent for future acts, including the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, or HIPAA, and the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act, or COPPA.

The Privacy Act of 1974 helped pave the way for other acts to come into place. It also gave people many more rights and a more safe experience when perusing the internet. The Privacy Act made many people more comfortable online and gave them a sense of security.