Digital threats: Doxxing

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This article reviews **what doxxing is** and **how to protect yourself.**

> **See also:**
>
> - Digital threats: Phishing and spam
> - Digital threats: Ransomware
> - Information Security Education Program

What is doxxing?

Doxxing is the act of **publicly revealing** an individual's or organization's **personally identifiable information (PII)**, without their consent. Doxxing is often used to **shame**, **humiliate**, or otherwise **harass** an individual.

> **Warning:** The College's Acceptable Use Policy ⧉ and Honor Code ⧉ prohibit all forms of doxxing.

Prevent doxxing

Protect yourself by **limiting the spread** of your personal information!

- **Avoid sharing personal information on social media**
- Use **strict privacy controls** on your software and services
- Use **different usernames** on different websites

What should I do if I'm doxxed?

Attention: If you feel **unsafe or threatened**, contact Campus Safety (610-526-7911)⧉ immediately.

Unsure where to begin? Contact the Help Desk

Step 1: Gather evidence

Preserve all evidence of doxxing. If the material is upsetting, consider asking a friend or family member.

- Screenshot **posts**, **comments**, and **photos**
- Save **texts**, **emails**, **voicemails**, and **call records**
- When possible, include **dates**, **times**, and **names** of those involved

Step 2: Seek support

Doxxing is a traumatic experience - contact Counseling Services or your dean for support. If sexual or gender-based misconduct has occurred, contact the College's Title IX coordinator.

Step 3: Report

Contact the Help Desk and Campus Safety immediately. Simultaneously, most platforms will allow you to **report misinformation or harmful posts**. Be sure to **document the date and time** in case you need to follow-up.

- Facebook
- Instagram
- TikTok
- X (aka Twitter)
- YouTube

Step 4: Obtain legal advice

While the College is unable to provide legal advice or representation, **speaking with a lawyer** can be beneficial to determine what legal options are best for you.

Questions?

If you have any additional questions or problems, don't hesitate to reach out to the **Help Desk**!

Phone: 610-526-7440 | Library and Help Desk hours
Email: help@brynmawr.edu | Service catalog
Location: Canaday Library 1st floor