INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF INNOVATIVE RESEARCH IN MULTIDISCIPLINARY EDUCATION
ISSN(print): 2833-4515, ISSN(online): 2833-453
Volume 03 Issue 05 May 2024
DOI: 10.58806/ijirme.2024.v3i5n24, Impact factor- 5.138
Page No. 883 - 885

Covid-19 Data Privacy in The Philippines and Its Implications

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ABSTRACT: COVID-19 has a great impact globally, wherein it affects the economic status of each country, education, industries, job opportunities, and students, especially the families who were victims of the said virus. Getting information to the victims is crucial to the families, where they can be separated from the community. The confidentiality of an individual may not be controlled because it is very obvious that it may be known in or within the community. This paper introduces and discusses the issues and how important it is to have a system and the right implementation for the privacy of individuals' data. Data privacy is one of the most important issues globally and must be kept confidential.

1. INTRODUCTION

The key risk factor that has led the World Health Organization (WHO) to confirm COVID-19 as a global pandemic of concern worldwide is the virus's high and widespread incidence rates.

One strategy to reduce the coronavirus's spread is contact tracking, which is employed in several nations, including the Philippines. Its goal is to stop the fatal virus from spreading [1], which was a common prehistoric practice and a crucial component of the strategy employed to contain earlier epidemics of tuberculosis and Ebola [2]. As a result, several nations rely on contact tracing methods to evaluate and analyze the COVID-19 epidemic [3]. Furthermore, it was deemed by the WHO organization to be one of the most important COVID-19 prevention strategies.

In contrast, contact tracing is the process of locating individuals who may have had contact with the sick and then gathering comprehensive data regarding every one of these contacts [4]. It appears that contact tracking has been employed to prevent communicable diseases for a long time. In fact, during the early stages of epidemiology, monitoring is a productivity strategy. The process had relied heavily on the recollection of a roster of people they would see in the upcoming weeks, or locations where the confirmed person had only been. Notifications might be sent by email, phone calls, or texts to those who would be informed. Additionally, a going-to-connect mirroring outcome typically indicates the completeness and accuracy of the list, or even the dependability and effectiveness of the tracing.

To effectively manage its coronavirus illness outbreak, it appears that the ability to quickly, or even consistently, identify individuals who have been near a person who has tested positive for the virus, is essential (COVID-19). Maintaining the privacy of individuals requires that information about their interactions with other users be kept private. Clients who test positive are required to provide the unidentified ID numbers and assist in tracking down the other people who have also been notified, rather than divulging their personal information, confidential data, or history to the authorities or any other organization.

The Covid 19 Data Privacy and its applications to individuals are presented in this work. focuses on managing personal data for those who test positive for the coronavirus. Managing this data is essential, but it also guarantees that you abide by the regulations that the DOH and IATF have put in place. It also includes a few applications that are utilized elsewhere.

2. RELATED LITERATURE

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on how we view privacy and how much we value protecting our personal information. To understand the most important and contentious processing operations used by states to contain the pandemic and lessen its effects, this article first offers legal insights on the general discussion about striking a balance between the fundamental right to privacy and the general public interest. The rise in cybercrime during the epidemic thus sheds light on pertinent dangers and solutions for the protection of personal information [5].

Strong contact tracing combined with an integrated system stops COVID-19 from spreading too quickly in Taiwan. It is essential to create an integrated management system to facilitate conventional contact tracing in order to stop the COVID-19 virus from spreading. The effectiveness of contact tracing is increased when management solutions increase the capacity and reduce the workload of contact tracers [6].

In the absence of a particular vaccine and anti-viral agents, non-pharmaceutical measures like contact tracing, surveillance, and social distancing are the only tools available to combat infectious diseases.[7] The impact of these measures on fundamental freedoms and human rights must be justified, necessary, and proportionate in order to protect the right to health.[8] The Covid-19 pandemic is the first in which technology can support the containment and mitigation of the contagion, and its deployment presents both new challenges and significant opportunities.

Preliminary findings from polls about public attitude regarding location privacy during the COVID-19 pandemic have been reported by several studies. They carried out longitudinal surveys, but the results of our surveys from April 1 and 3, 2020, are the main focus of this study. a selection of the results from subsequent survey runs. The results are preliminary, unreviewed by peers, and presented without statistical analysis, as they have made clear throughout the study. The paper complements other ongoing research on public opinion on possible contact tracking technologies and privacy concerns. It also strongly advises policymakers, producers of contact tracing software, and others to take user values and concerns into account, since user cooperation is essential. They intend to add longitudinal data and a more thorough study to this paper in the future.

To help authorities monitor and respond promptly to stop the spread of COVID-19 within an enterprise, another study, the P-Tracer Application, was created. It creates association histories of users and occupancy in various areas of a floor or building using WiFi affiliation papers and pre-existing network equipment. The P-Tracer app can help with quick contact tracing and lower workplace dangers associated with COVID-19. [11]

3. IMPACT

The multiple contact tracing results reported here have raised several ethical concerns notwithstanding their value in containing the COVID-19 pandemic. Following that, researchers would go over a number of the moral issues surrounding contact tracing.

The ability to get in touch with the COVID-19 patients has been connected to the problem. Interfaces between these applications are necessary. Even though contact-tracing apps require certain users to provide more than simply whether they have been checked, in practice, clients should never be allowed to look into the possibility of testing positive for COVID-19 without objective evidence. In this context, government agencies and experts may also handle the collection of unattributed data, as long as they stay within the bounds of legal and regulatory obligations.

On the other hand, a particular mandatory technique would be contested because electronic contact tracing may only be successful when many people participate. Because of this, self-initiated consent needs to be honored at every turn during the execution of electronic interactions [12], including decisions regarding. Therefore, techniques that prioritize monitoring over consent and individual privacy while simultaneously exchanging information in ways not specified in terms and conditions may fuel such a hostile environment, particularly in contexts where people have positive or negative opinions of a particular authority.

Electronic contact tracing involves several dangers related to privacy and data security. In actuality, COVID-19 carriers face a serious privacy risk because they can be recognized by several characteristics that are necessary to get in touch with potential connections. To ensure data safety, additional security measures against system malfunction and unauthorized users are required. In this sense, strong server management—such as encrypted data and efficient authentication techniques—must be implemented.

The Covid 19 is affecting several countries since accurate information has not been widely disseminated. The justifications for providing in-depth details during contact tracing are unclear. is imposed covertly by the person to reveal information required by the relevant authorities or an authorized government official.

4. CONCLUSION

Contact tracking methods are essential in preventing the spread of pandemics such as COVID-19. However, a variety of circumstances may in reality limit their production and efficiency. The author may even summarize these problems using the observations made over the previous four years.

Many people on the planet do not even have access to the internet or sophisticated mobile devices, especially in poor nations. Because of this, contact identifiers continue to be difficult to find out in public, even though computerized contact tracing can replace the requirement for meticulous contact enumeration and identification.

These same contact tracing applications have some inaccuracies due to signal shortages, especially in some places like public transportation. These inaccuracies can affect the applications' effectiveness in differentiating contact details, as accuracy is primarily aided by the signal strength between the base station and the cell phone.

The likelihood of implementing contact tracking is increasing in direct proportion to the number of active users in the community. A strategy plan to include mobile phone contact tracing to identify viral contacts would then be ensured by the same implementation and citizen participation.

The implementation needs to be set up in a way that makes it acceptable for experts to use and evaluate the techniques to address the issue of clarity.

Clients using mobile contact tracing may put themselves at risk for privacy violations by giving third parties—like health insurance companies—access to their data. Furthermore, big businesses might survive even if they are identified as COVID-19-affected communities. Large companies might also survive if they are identified as communities impacted by a COVID-19 carrier. Safeguarding confidentiality and safety can also be achieved by allowing information to be saved and sent to clients' mobile devices. If a client tests positive, or even upon additional inquiry, this same data would be made available.

5. RECOMMENDATION

One of the primary strategies utilized to stop the COVID-19 virus, the present health issue, from spreading is contact tracking. The application of technological transformation can guarantee cheap relative tracing costs while simultaneously increasing the effectiveness of early detection of affected persons. However, the use of digital data for 'especially pertinent detachment' by clients raises several serious ethical concerns, including security and privacy of data.

Providing a distinct synopsis of the numerous contact tracing models by summarizing the varied strategies and executions employed in multiple nations to contain the spread of COVID-19. Subsequently, I would examine several moral dilemmas that arose throughout the development and execution of the aforementioned systems. Additionally, a variety of studies of various retention visualization modeling techniques are shown, exhibiting diverse approaches and applications that are employed in multiple nations to stop the spread of COVID-19. Additionally, while creating such applications, additional ethical issues come up.

Concerning data privacy, adherence to the data security of individuals requires an application, which could be made by technological features. Contact tracing is not hampered by data security, however, handling the data requires specific methods or data bank knowledge. Information encryption may be one method of safeguarding people's privacy and data security.

In the end, decisions on the idea of tracing integration need to be made openly and honestly to encourage participation from all parties. Government representatives could also discuss the rationale for contact tracking initiatives and the safeguards needed to ensure impartiality, accuracy, and lack of conviction.

Long-term implementation of contact tracing therapies while adhering to ethical issues that preserve users' protection is facilitated by the adoption of development plans by health professionals. Moreover, other actions need to be taken to increase the contact tracking procedure's efficacy, especially in the health conditions of clients.

6. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author would like to thank my colleagues, friends, and family for their support and guidance.

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