Biometrics & Privacy

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Forms of Identification

- Something you have
- Something you know
- Something you are
Uses of Biometrics

• Verification vs. Identification
  – Verification: Am I who I say I am? (1:1)
  – Identification: Who am I? (1:Many)

• Authorization vs. Surveillance
  – Access
  – Monitoring
Benefits

- May be more secure
- Possible deterrent
- May prevent identity fraud
- Convenient

Drawbacks

- If lost, lost forever
- False positives/false negatives
- Possible discrimination
- Privacy
PRIVACY-Basic Questions

• Who owns the data?
• Which technologies pose the greatest privacy risks?
• Are some uses more appropriate than others?
• Can privacy risks be mitigated?
Informational Privacy

- Data aggregation
- Mission creep
- Redress
- Law enforcement access
- Notice/Transparency
- Accountability
Some applications can enhance privacy....
…while others can erode privacy....
Issues to Consider

- Consent vs. Non-Consent
- Opt-in vs. Mandatory
- Verification vs. Identification
- Public vs. Private
- Individual vs. Institutional Ownership
- Local vs. Central Storage
- Template vs. Stored Image
- Audit and Oversight
- Backup System
Privacy Protections

- Limit scope of collection
- Limit duration of retention
- Limit data aggregation
- Encrypt data
- Provide authorization controls
- Provide effective and timely redress
- Disclose purpose of system
- Allow for disenrollment
- Protect confidentiality of decisions