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### **Identity Theft**

I chose to do my final project on Identity Theft. This is a well known crime that is happening more and more with new and upcoming technology. More than three million Americans have their identity stolen each year.

The article I found was from the NYTimes called “The Risks ID Cards May Carry”. I chose to do this article because I never thought that just a simple ID card, someone wears to work everyday could carry so much information in the barcode. In the article it says that a simple smart phone application can serve as a barcode reader. Recently a case came up at Disney Land Resort in California where employees are suing the resort for potential identity theft that could have happened for what information through their ID cards. I agree with what they did, it is so easy to get that information through the barcode and it should not be easily accessible. Companies should not be putting this type of personal information in their uniforms. To protect yourself from potentially being in a case of identity theft through your ID card, you should ask your employer specifically what is on that card and if it is a social security you should ask to have another “unique identifier”. Another reason I chose this article was because the information in it was just very interesting about how an ID card can have so much information. I would have never thought that a part of someone’s uniform could possibly cost them tons of money.

My first website I chose to look at and learn more information about identity theft was <http://www.idtheftcenter.org/>. This website explains how the identity theft center “is a nonprofit, nationally respected organization dedicated exclusively to the understanding and prevention of identity theft. The ITRC provides victim and consumer support as well as public education”. I think that this is a good thing that they do. This website offers a lot of information and is able to help the people who are in need of getting their identity back.

The second website is the government’s website that offers help for people who have had their identity stolen and the suspect has used their identity, people who have had their identity stolen and the suspect has not used their identity, and also just for people who just want to know more about identity theft. I explored this website to find that they also offer information on how to avoid the situation of potentially getting your identity stolen. It’s nice to see the government reach out and help people who have become victims of this leading crime.

Lastly, I chose my website all on statistics about identity theft. I think that it is important for people to know how much this is happening daily and yearly. This website offers statistics from the beginning of having your identity stolen, to who is the most responsive when trying to talk to someone. I think that this is good information because with these statistics, victims of identity theft will not be wasting their time with people who will not respond to their problems and they will be able to go to the people who will make a difference in their life.

**::Question::**

***If this is such a crucial crime and is done daily, why have people not stopped making the technology that makes it easier for these people to do it?***

## **Sources**

<http://bucks.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/03/22/the-risks-id-cards-may-carry/?ref=identitytheft>

<http://www.idtheftcenter.org/index.html>

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/>

<http://www.spamlaws.com/id-theft-statistics.html>