

# **Stop Sharing Our Personal Information with the World!**

**By Woodrow Wilcox**

I help senior citizens with their insurance and financial related problems. Many times that means holding on the phone while I wait to talk to someone at an insurance company or other firm.

People from India and the Philippines may be very nice people. But, they do not speak English with an American accent. So, it is both difficult and frustrating to speak with them while trying to help senior citizens. Some American companies have reduced their phone answering costs by hiring firms outside the U.S. to answer their customer service and order phone calls. I believe that this is wrong.

Allowing people outside the U.S.A. to have access to our citizens' names, addresses, phone numbers, social security numbers, Medicare ID numbers, credit card numbers, medical histories, and other vital information is inviting the trouble of identity theft. If a foreigner harvests a computer record bank with all that information and sells it to a criminal enterprise, there is no limit to the amount of trouble, frustration, and financial difficulty that can be forced on America's senior citizens and others.

I would urge everyone to contact federal officials to persuade them to pass legislation that forbids such personal information to be on the internet or shared in any way with firms or people outside the U.S.A.

Written and distributed by Woodrow Wilcox