## HOME DEPOT AND LOWE'S ACCUSED OF SCANNING MILLIONS OF CUSTOMERS FACES



Home improvement stores like Home Depot and Lowe's have become partners in Big Brother's ever expanding public surveillance program.

Home Depot's <u>"You Can Do It. We Can Help"</u> slogan should really say, "We Can Do It. We Can Help Big Brother." And Lowe's <u>"Do It Right For Less. Start At Lowe's"</u> slogan should say, "Doing It Right And Identifying Every Customer, Starts At Lowe's."

According to the <u>Cook County Record</u>, two recent class action lawsuits accuse Home Depot and Lowe's of secretly using facial recognition to identify customers as soon as they enter their stores.

On Sept. 4, 2019, a group of plaintiffs simultaneously filed virtually identical class action complaints in Cook County Circuit Court in Chicago against Lowe's and in federal court in Atlanta against Home Depot, accusing the retailers of violating the Illinois state law by "surreptitiously" scanning customers' faces as they moved about the chains' stores in Illinois.

According to the Lowe's <u>lawsuit</u>, home improvement stores are secretly using facial recognition to identify everyone.

"Lowe's has augmented its in-store security cameras with software that tracks individuals' movements throughout the store using a unique scan of face geometry. Put simply, Defendants surreptitiously attempt to collect the faceprint of every person who appears in front of one of their facial-recognition cameras."

To find out more about the Home Depot facial recognition, click here.

The Home Depot and the Lowe's case claim that they have failed to inform customers that their biometric data is being collected, and did not obtain written consent for doing so. Home Depot and Lowe's have also neglected to post a publicly available retention schedule detailing when the data will be destroyed.

According to the Lowe's class action, "defendants actively conceal their faceprinting practices from the public."

The class action also claims that Lowe's has been secretly using facial recognition for over 11 years. There is no mention of how long Home Depot has been using facial recognition.

Have private corporations secretly turned America into China? Since when did it become OK for private corporations to secretly surveil the public?

But that is not the end of this privacy nightmare. Things get worse, and I mean a lot worse.

## Home Depot and Lowe's scanned millions of customers faces



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Can you imagine two competing corporations sharing millions of facial recognition photos and descriptions of customers?

Well imagine no more, because it is happening right now.

The class action claims that Home Depot and Lowe's have shared facial

recognition pictures of its customers with other stores.

"Framed as a loss-prevention measure, these systems allow stores to follow customers, to identify particular individuals when they enter the store and, in some cases, to track shoppers across multiple stores and identify "suspicious" shopping activity."

Welcome to China, sorry I meant America: where everyone is treated like a potential criminal.

The plaintiffs seek to expand the case to include an additional class of perhaps "hundreds of thousands, if not millions" of additional plaintiffs; potentially including everyone who entered a Home Depot or Lowe's store with the facial recognition surveillance program in place.

Think about what this means: both Home Depot and Lowe's have secretly collected millions of customers faces and are sharing them with other stores, regardless of whether or not they have committed a crime.

Corporations and Big Brother do not care about our privacy, in fact the opposite is true. Corporations want to monetize our privacy and Big Brother wants to use it to track everyone.

By everyone, I mean your kids, family, friends, co-workers, and even <u>your pets</u> are all affected by facial recognition.

Stopping facial recognition should be everyone's goal unless you like being treated like a potential criminal everywhere you go.

https://www.blacklistednews.com/article/74806/home-depot-and-lowes-accused-of-scanning-millions-of-customers.html