

**In What Sense the Culture of Filial Piety Poses a Threat to Defining Privacy  
During the Age of Big Data**

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The paper aims to explore in what sense the culture of filial piety in Chinese society poses a threat to searching for and defining the concept of privacy during the age of big data. Despite a huge embrace of an age of big data and related technological innovation, China is facing a dilemma of how to balance between a respect for individual privacy and the customs adopted from its tradition of filial piety, which usually values the family above the individual, the elder above the young, and the male above the female. Although it is said that due to modernization, filial piety and Chinese culture is no longer intimately related, I shall argue that filial piety as a penetrating form of life still affects those who have to confront the issue of privacy at the age of big data nowadays since defining privacy is sometimes culture-related, and that it is a great challenge to define the concept of privacy or even find out a normative justification for a right to privacy while living in such culture. The real problem, as I see it, does not lie primarily in a specific sociopolitical form, but in a way of valuing relationships among people above individual autonomy under the influence of such culture; and the wide application of massive information during the age of big data forces Chinese to face the very issue of privacy, which in turn requires reflection on the infrastructure of the culture of filial piety.