

Open-Source Advocate Warns about Privacy Concerns

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Richard Stallman doesn't have a cell phone. He doesn't buy DVDs, doesn't use Windows or Mac OS laptops and doesn't use closed-source commercial software. He is not on Facebook and has never owned a car.

But he isn't a Luddite or computer illiterate. In fact, he loves technology and the Internet. At one point, he hoped the Internet would stop censorship around the world.

Stallman is the founder and president of the advocacy group Free Software Foundation and was one of the main creators of the open-source GNU/Linux operating system. Speaking for two hours at a packed Stamps Auditorium, Stallman lamented the prevalence of online tracking and the rise of closed-source programs.

"Digital technology allows surveillance that Stalin can only dream of," Stallman said.

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