

# WHOIS REGISITRANT IDENTIFICATION STUDY

## Appendix B: Variable Glossary

PRESENTED BY:  
NORC at the  
University of Chicago

PRESENTED TO:  
ICANN

OCTOBER 30, 2012



*at the* UNIVERSITY *of* CHICAGO

Variable Name	Description	Categories
Allegedly Illegal or Harmful Activity	Behaviors inferred from specific evidence noted by manual coders. Coders received training in the nature of these behaviors and their tell-tale signs on websites.	<p>No allegedly illegal activities detected</p> <p>Spam</p> <p>Advance fee fraud (aka 419 scams)</p> <p>Phishing</p> <p>Cybersquatting/Typosquatting</p> <p>Counterfeit merchandise</p> <p>Trademark infringement</p> <p>Malware</p> <p>Intellectual property theft</p> <p>Child sexual images</p> <p>Identity theft</p> <p>Money laundering</p>
Apparent Domain Registrant Type	For each sampled domain, the type of person who registered the domain as indicated by WHOIS information in “registrant name” and “registrant organization” categories.	<p>Natural Person</p> <p>Legal Person</p> <p>Privacy/Proxy</p> <p>Unknown</p>
Apparent Domain User Type	For each sampled domain, the type of person who appeared to be the beneficial user of the domain. Often inferred from “About” and similar sections on websites.	<p>Natural Person</p> <p>Legal Person</p> <p>Domain Parked</p> <p>No Internet Content</p> <p>Unknown</p>

Variable Name	Description	Categories
Blacklist Variables	Codes for allegedly illegal or harmful activity categories as determined by DNS blacklists which received top-rankings for accuracy from NORC analysts. It is possible for a domain to be categorized in more than one way, so the categories are not mutually exclusive.	Abusive Abusive host Abusive host & anonymous-state Backscatter Ddos attacks Dynamic-ip Spam Spam abuse vulnerability Spam bad host, no cookie Suspicious Suspicious & comment spammer Tor network Trojan/virus/bot
Business Structure	Based on evidence in domain content of a sampled domain and external databases (e.g. Accurant), the apparent structure of a business.	For-Profit Business Non-Profit Business Not a Business Unknown Business Structure
Domain Name Extension (gTLD)	The domain name extension of the sampled generic top level domain.	*.com *.net *.org *.info *.biz
Explicit Sexual Images	Manual determination of whether or not explicit sexual images are present in the web content of a sampled domain	Yes No
Potentially Commercial Activities	The specific type of commercial activities a website appeared to transact, based on web content analysis by manual coders	E-Commerce Membership (Online Content) Membership (Offline Content) Promotional Content (Offline) Third Party Banner Ads Host Banner Ads Pay-Per-Click Ads Host Pay-Per-Click Ads

Variable Name	Description	Categories
Registrant Country/Region Of The World	Based on the WHOIS country of residence for the individual or organization that registered the sampled domain.	United States China United Kingdom Germany Australia/New Zealand Canada Other Europe Other Asia/Pacific Other (North America excluding the U.S. and Canada, South America, Caribbean Islands, and Africa) Ambiguous/Missing
Relationship Of Domain User to Registrant	The discernible relationship between the domain user and domain registrant, often derived by cross-referencing WHOIS information with web content for concordant attributes (e.g. a registrant's role in the domain use is specified on the website)	Domain User Same as Registrant Domain User is Customer of Privacy/Proxy Registrant Domain User is Customer of Other Registrant Domain User is Employer/Employee of Registrant Unable to Determine Relationship
Whitelist Variables	Codes for domains found on the whitelist hosted by <a href="http://www.dnswl.org">www.dnswl.org</a> and two additional whitelists. The response octate of the dnswl.org gave additional information on the category of the entry on the whitelist. It is possible for a domain to be identified by more than one whitelist, so the categories in the summary table are not mutually exclusive.	Retail/Wholesale Services Service/Network Providers Email Service Providers No Whitelist Octate