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БАЗОВЫЕ ЦЕННОСТИ АМЕРИКАНСКОЙ КУЛЬТУРЫ

THE BASIC VALUES IN AMERICAN CULTURE: Privacy

Учебное пособие

Под общей редакцией О.В. Александровой

Москва
Издательство «ФЛИНТА»
2013

УДК 7.01/811.111'42(075.8)
ББК 71.0+81.2Англ-5-923
Б17

Под общей редакцией:

д-ра филол. наук, проф. кафедры английского языкознания филологического факультета МГУ им. М.В. Ломоносова *О.В. Александровой*

Коллектив авторов:

д-р филол. наук, проф. кафедры английского языка и методики преподавания факультета романо-германской филологии НИУ «БелГУ» *О.Н. Прохорова*;
д-р филол. наук, проф. кафедры теории преподавания иностранных языков факультета иностранных языков и регионоведения

МГУ им. М.В. Ломоносова *О.Д. Вишнякова*;

д-р филол. наук, проф. кафедры английского языка и методики преподавания факультета романо-германской филологии НИУ «БелГУ» *И.В. Чекулай*;
канд. филол. наук, доцент кафедры теории и практики перевода факультета романо-германской филологии НИУ «БелГУ» *Е.В. Пупынина*; канд. филол. наук, доцент кафедры английского языка и методики преподавания факультета романо-германской филологии НИУ «БелГУ» *И.А. Куприева*

Рецензент:

д-р филол. наук, проф. кафедры французского языка факультета романо-германской филологии НИУ «БелГУ» *Ж. Багана*

Б17 Базовые ценности американской культуры. The Basic Values in American Culture: Privacy [Электронный ресурс]: учеб. пособие / О.Н. Прохорова, О.Д. Вишнякова, И.В. Чекулай, Е.В. Пупынина, И.А. Куприева ; под общ. ред. О.В. Александровой. — 2-е изд., стер. — М. : ФЛИНТА, 2013. — 112 с.

ISBN 978-5-9765-1471-3

Настоящее пособие посвящено изучению культурологического концепта «Privacy» на материале аутентичных текстов, взятых в Интернете. Для удобства ознакомления с содержанием пособие разделено на несколько частей, отражающих актуализацию заявленного концепта в различных сферах жизни социума.

Студентам языковых вузов, бакалаврам, магистрам, аспирантам, а также всем желающим изучать американскую лингвокультуру.

УДК 7.01/811.111'42(075.8)
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ISBN 978-5-9765-1471-3

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“A book is the only place in which you can examine a fragile thought without breaking it, or explore an explosive idea without fear it will go off in your face. It is one of the few heavens remaining where a man's mind can get both provocation and privacy” (Edward P. Morgan).

(From Quotations about books and reading)

What is privacy? What is its gist? Where are the limits of it? So many questions occur to every person trying to study the American English language and to understand the true mentality of the nation.

As it is widely known, every American sets an extremely high value on his or her privacy, both physical and moral. And this very privacy and the protection of personal identifying information are of concern to everyone in the USA. Citizens are addressed by the authors of innumerable articles and conferences to stop the loss of privacy, either through the sale of consumer databases or their own inattention. So, in this concern social opinions differ and may vary from “WE HAVE NO PRIVACY AT ALL AND WE SHALL GET OVER IT” to “CIVIL LIBERTIES KNOWN TO EVERYONE NO MORE EXIST”.

In such powerful national stream people are specially taught to safely maneuver on the Internet and minimize their exposure to bogus sites set up to steal their identity. Users are warned about the dangers of phishing and posting personal information on social network sites, special firewalls are used to protect American databases. Moreover, no other computer, except with American IP, can browse an American site.

But what exactly constitutes the danger? What are the data custodians doing with the information in their possession?

People live under the constant pressure to be seen, heard, touched. Where is the reason for it? Does it have any impact on other European civilizations? What will all this lead to? Exploring these topics is the *raison d'être* of this book, written by the university teaching staff. The book shows the specific features of privacy in different spheres of life: business, internet, workplace, medical institutions. The texts presented here are taken from reliable Internet resources and are aimed to write a story straight to the addressee. The book also provides different kinds of exercises which are supposed to improve students language skills in writing, reading, comprehension and oral speech. It is also supplied with additional material, namely I-net resources, privacy lyrics which are aimed to give extra information and amuse the reader.

We will be really happy if you like the book and continue studying the basic American values with us.

Authors