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**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

RONA KOMINS, on behalf of herself, her children, B.K. and M.K, and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

DAVE YONAMINE, JOHN LIBBY, MOBILITYWARE, LLC; DOES 1-100, inclusive, and ROES Software Development Kit Business Entities 1-100, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: 19STCV24865

**THIRD AMENDED CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT**

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

1 Plaintiff Rona Komins, on behalf of herself and her children, B.K., and M.K., and all others  
2 similarly situated (“Plaintiff”), by and through her undersigned counsel, hereby sues Defendants  
3 Dave Yonamine, John Libby, and MobilityWare, LLC. (“MobilityWare”), DOES 1-100, and  
4 ROES 1-100, hereafter collectively named as “Defendants,” and, upon information and belief and  
5 investigation of counsel, allege as follows:

6 **I. INTRODUCTION**

7 1. This is an action brought by a parent to protect the privacy of her children, whom,  
8 while playing games via gaming apps on mobile devices, have had their personal identifying  
9 information tracked, collected, and shared by MobilityWare and its partners for targeted  
10 advertising and other commercial exploitation, in direct violation of California state laws. Plaintiff  
11 seeks an injunction to stop Defendants’ unlawful practices and sequester their unlawfully obtained  
12 information, and an award of reasonable damages.

13 **II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

14 2. This Court has original jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1332(d)(4)(A), the local  
15 controversy exception to federal jurisdiction under the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005 (CAFA)  
16 because greater than two-thirds of all members in the proposed Class are citizens of California;  
17 the Defendants are citizens of California and Defendants’ conduct forms a significant basis for the  
18 claims asserted by the Class; the principal injuries resulting from Defendants’ conduct were  
19 incurred in California; and during the three-year period preceding the filing of this action, no other  
20 class action has been filed asserting the same or similar factual allegations against the Defendants  
21 on behalf of the same person. Additionally, the number of members of the proposed Class in the  
22 aggregate is more than 100 and the Defendants are not a State, State official, or other governmental  
23 entity against whom the Court may be foreclosed from ordering relief.

24 3. This Court has both general and specific personal jurisdiction over the Defendants.

25 4. The Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants because Defendants Dave  
26 Yonamine and John Libby reside in California and Defendant MobilityWare has its principal place  
27 of business in California, Defendants transact business in California, have substantial aggregate  
28 contacts with California, engaged and are engaging in conduct that has and had a direct, substantial,

1 reasonably foreseeable, and intended effect of causing injury to persons throughout California, and  
2 purposely availed themselves of the laws of California, rendering the exercise of jurisdiction by  
3 the Court permissible under traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

4 5. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure §§  
5 395 and 395.5 because a substantial part of the conduct giving rise to Plaintiff's claims occurred  
6 in this District, Defendants transact business in this District, and Defendants reside in this District.  
7 Defendants' business practices and wrongful acts have occurred and continue to occur in this  
8 county, and the adverse effects of Defendants' alleged wrongful conduct have harmed and will  
9 continue to harm the residents of this county and the rest of the state.

10 **III. PARTIES**

11 **Plaintiff**

12 6. Plaintiff Rona Komins ("Plaintiff") is the parent of children "B.K." and "M.K."  
13 who played the online gaming applications or apps ("apps") operated by the Defendants.

14 7. Plaintiff and her children are residents and citizens of Los Angeles, California. Ms.  
15 Komins brings this action on behalf of herself, B.K., M.K., and all others similarly situated.

16 8. B.K. was under the age of 13 while using the MobilityWare gaming apps FreeCell  
17 Solitaire, and Solitaire. M.K. was under the age of 18 while using the MobilityWare gaming apps  
18 FreeCell Solitaire and Solitaire.

19 **Defendants**

20 9. Defendant, MobilityWare, LLC is a California limited liability company  
21 headquartered at 440 Exchange, Ste. 100, Irvine, California 92602. Defendant MobilityWare, LLC  
22 is registered to do business in California as entity number 201800810207.

23 10. MobilityWare generates revenue primarily from, among other things, in-game  
24 purchases, and advertising through online video content. MobilityWare developed and marketed  
25 the online gaming apps used by Plaintiff, including Solitaire and FreeCell, and apps used by  
26 millions of people in the United States.

27 11. Defendant Dave Yonamine, an individual, is, or was during the applicable period  
28 of this lawsuit, the Chief Executive Officer, and also an Agent for Service of Process of

1 MobilityWare, LLC and is located at 440 Exchange, Ste. 100, Irvine, CA 92602. Dave Yonamine  
2 is the co-founder and Chairman of the Board of MobilityWare, LLC. Upon information and belief,  
3 Defendant Dave Yonamine, during all times relevant to Plaintiff's claims, specifically,  
4 individually, and personally directed and authorized all of the unlawful data collection described  
5 herein, and was intimately involved in the software programing that unlawfully collects user data.  
6 Upon information and belief, Defendant Yonamine was the guiding spirit and central figure behind  
7 the unlawful data collection described herein.

8 12. Defendant, John Libby, an individual, is, or was during the applicable period of this  
9 lawsuit, the Secretary, Chief Financial Officer, and an Agent for Service of Process in California  
10 for MobilityWare, LLC and is located at 440 Exchange, Ste.100, Irvine, CA 92602. Upon  
11 information and belief, Defendant John Libby, during all times relevant to Plaintiff's claims,  
12 specifically, individually, and personally directed and authorized all of the unlawful data collection  
13 described herein, and was intimately involved in the software programing that unlawfully collects  
14 user data. Upon information and belief, Defendant Libby was the guiding spirit and central figure  
15 behind the unlawful data collection described herein.

16 **SDK Defendants**

17 13. The "SDK Defendants" are entities which provided their own proprietary computer  
18 code to MobilityWare, known as Software Development Kits ("SDKs"), for installation and use  
19 in MobilityWare's gaming apps, including Solitaire and FreeCell, causing the transmittal of app  
20 users' Personal Data to the SDK Defendants to facilitate subsequent tracking and targeted  
21 advertising. "Personal Data" as used herein is any data that refers to, is related to, or is associated  
22 with an identified or identifiable individual.

23 14. The true names and capacities of the defendants named herein under California  
24 Code of Civil Procedure § 474 as "ROE Software Development Kit Business Entities 1 through  
25 100" are presently unknown to Plaintiff, who therefore sues them by fictitious names. Plaintiff  
26 will amend this Complaint to allege the true names and capacities of these defendants when they  
27 have been determined. Each of the fictitiously named defendants is responsible in some manner  
28 for the conduct alleged herein. The ROE defendants are private individuals, associations,

1 partnerships, corporations, or institutes who participated in the wrongful conduct alleged herein in  
2 ways which are unknown to Plaintiff at this time.

3 15. At all relevant times, MobilityWare purposefully installed and implemented the  
4 SDK Defendants' tracking software kits into its mobile gaming apps, the SDK Defendants were  
5 agents of MobilityWare, and MobilityWare is vicariously liable for the acts of the SDK Defendants  
6 as alleged herein.

#### 7 **IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

8 16. MobilityWare is a mobile gaming app developer and publisher that offers a host  
9 of mobile gaming apps, including, but not limited to: Solitaire, Tripeaks Solitaire, Pyramid  
10 Solitaire, FreeCell Solitaire, Crown Solitaire, Spider Solitaire, Spider Go Solitaire, Castle Solitaire,  
11 Addiction Solitaire, Mahjong Solitaire, Yukon Russian Solitaire Game, Aces Up Solitaire,  
12 Destination Solitaire, Hearts Card Game, Puzzle Cats, Sudoku Simple, Spades Card Game,  
13 Tropical Treats, Word Wiz, Word Warp, Sunny Shapes, Word Search, Tetra Block – Puzzle Game,  
14 and Dice Merge Puzzle Master (collectively, "Gaming Apps").<sup>1</sup>

15 17. The Gaming Apps are available for download in online stores, including Google's  
16 "Play Store" and Apple's "App Store."

17 18. Collectively, the Gaming Apps have been downloaded over 400 million times.<sup>2</sup>

18 19. As one of the most popular and ubiquitous gaming apps, MobilityWare's Solitaire  
19 gaming app has been downloaded more than 100 million times. Tripeaks Solitaire has been  
20 downloaded more than 1 million times; Pyramid Solitaire has been downloaded more than 1  
21 million times; FreeCell Solitaire has been downloaded more than 10 million times; Crown Solitaire  
22 has been downloaded more than 1 million times; Spider Solitaire has been downloaded more than  
23 10 million times; Spider Go Solitaire has been downloaded more than 100 thousand times; Castle  
24 Solitaire has been downloaded more than 500 thousand times; Addiction Solitaire has been  
25 downloaded more than 500 thousand times; Mahjong Solitaire has been downloaded more than

26 \_\_\_\_\_  
27 <sup>1</sup> <https://www.mobilityware.com/games>

28 <sup>2</sup> <https://www.mobilityware.com/ourstory>

1 500 thousand times; Yukon Russian Solitaire Game has been downloaded more than 100 thousand  
2 times; Aces Up Solitaire has been downloaded more than 50 thousand times; Destination Solitaire  
3 has been downloaded more than 33 thousand times; Hearts Card Game has been downloaded more  
4 than 100 thousand times; Puzzle Cats has been downloaded more than 10 thousand times; Sudoku  
5 Simple has been downloaded more than 50 thousand times; Spades Card Game has been  
6 downloaded more than 100 thousand times; Tropical Treats has been downloaded more than 100  
7 thousand times; Word Wiz has been downloaded more than 100 thousand times; Word Warp has  
8 been downloaded more than 6 thousand times; Sunny Shapes has been downloaded more than 46  
9 times; Word Search has been downloaded more than 50 thousand times; Tetra Block – Puzzle  
10 Game has been downloaded more than 10 thousand times; and Dice Merge Puzzle Master has been  
11 downloaded more than 10 thousand times. *See **Exhibit 1**.*

12 20. MobilityWare styles and promotes the Gaming Apps as fun, free, kid-friendly  
13 games, and markets the games to a family audience that includes children. Each of the Gaming  
14 Apps in Google’s Play Store are rated as E for “Everyone.” *See **Exhibit 1**.* The Google Play Store  
15 describes the “Everyone” rating as, “Content is generally suitable for all ages. May contain  
16 minimal cartoon, fantasy or mild violence and/or infrequent use of mild language.”<sup>3</sup>

17 21. In Apple’s App Store, the Gaming Apps are rated “Age 4+”. *See **Exhibit 1**.* The  
18 Apple age ratings are based on questionnaires completed by the app developer regarding the app’s  
19 content and reflect its representations about the app’s suitability for children.<sup>4</sup> A 4+ rating indicates  
20 that the Gaming Apps are suitable for users ages 4 and older.

21 **A. Mobile Online Gaming Apps are Programmed to Enable the Collection of**  
22 **Personal Data.**

23 22. According to the Pew Research Center in April of 2019, there are only 10% of adult  
24  
25

26 \_\_\_\_\_  
27 <sup>3</sup>[https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/6209544?p=appgame\\_ratings&visit\\_id=636966522887185954-2966504457&rd=1](https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/6209544?p=appgame_ratings&visit_id=636966522887185954-2966504457&rd=1) (last accessed October 8, 2020).

28 <sup>4</sup> <https://developer.apple.com/app-store/review/guidelines/> (last accessed October 8, 2020).

1 Americans that do not use the internet.<sup>5</sup> Since the inception of online gaming, consumers have  
2 increasingly been using their mobile devices to play their favorite online games, many of which  
3 are aimed at children.

4 23. Most adult consumers, including those that are parents of children consumers, are  
5 unaware that the apps are specifically engineered to surreptitiously and unlawfully collect the adult,  
6 and child-users' personal information from their mobile device, and then "share" that information  
7 for profit to advertisers.

8 24. App developers contract with third-parties for the right to embed third-party  
9 computer code into the developers' apps, for various purposes.

10 25. Advertising-specific SDKs (Software Development Kits) are blocks of computer  
11 code which operate to secretly collect an app user's personal information and track online behavior  
12 to facilitate behavioral advertising or marketing analysis.

13 26. In the case of an advertising SDK, the creator of the SDK will embed its SDK code  
14 into the underlying code of the app itself, collect personal information to serve behavioral  
15 advertisements, and then pay the app developer based on the number of ads shown.

16 27. This practice is a substantial source of many app developers' revenue, enabling app  
17 developers to allow users to download the apps without charging a purchase price. This is a  
18 common practice as demonstrated in 2020 with 96.1% of Android apps on the Google Play Store  
19 being free to download.<sup>6</sup>

20 **MobilityWare and the SDK Defendants Track Children's Online Behavior and**  
21 **Collect Children's Personal Data As They Play MobilityWare's Gaming Apps**

22 28. Unbeknownst to parents and their children, as users play one of MobilityWare's  
23 Gaming Apps, MobilityWare in partnership with the SDK Defendants collect Personal Data and  
24 \_\_\_\_\_

25 <sup>5</sup> "10% of Americans don't use the internet. Who are they?" Pew Research Center (Apr. 22,  
26 2019), *available at* <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/04/22/some-americans-dont-use-the-internet-who-are-they/> (accessed Oct. 15, 2020).

27 <sup>6</sup> "Android and Google Play Statistics," AppBrain (October 15, 2020), *available at*  
28 <https://www.appbrain.com/stats/free-and-paid-android-applications> (accessed Oct. 15, 2020).

1 track online behavior to profile users for targeted advertising.

2         29. As soon as a user downloads and opens up one of the Gaming Apps on his or her  
3 mobile device, MobilityWare immediately begins to collect Personal Information, defined in its  
4 Privacy Policy as “information that identifies, relates to, describes, references, is capable of being  
5 associated with, or could reasonably be linked, directly or indirectly, with a particular consumer  
6 or device.” See **Exhibit 2** (Privacy Policy). MobilityWare also collects users’ Personal Data,  
7 defined as “any information that enables us to identify you, directly or indirectly, by reference to  
8 an identifier such as your name, identification number, location data, online identifier or one or  
9 more factors specific to you.” *Id.*

10         30. Targeted advertising is driven by users’ Personal Data and employs sophisticated  
11 algorithms that interpret the Personal Data to determine the most effective advertising for  
12 individual users.

13         31. When children engage in online activity, such as playing a game, their every action  
14 on the device they are using is linked to a unique and persistent identifier that constructs a profile  
15 of the child on that mobile device. These identifying numbers are unique to each device and put in  
16 place by app developers so that their SDK partners can collect the users’ personal information and  
17 build an immense online profile across all the devices they use. Their app usage, geographic  
18 location (including likely domicile), and internet navigation all help to build a personal profile that  
19 can then be exploited in a commercial context for profit.

20         32. The process in which this occurs will typically follow this sequence of events: an  
21 app developer installs an SDK in an app, which collects persistent identifiers, permitting the SDK  
22 entity to sell the child’s persistent identifier to an advertising network or third-party data  
23 aggregator (who then further resells the data to additional partners). An “Ad Network” will store  
24 the persistent identifiers on its servers. Later, other app or SDK developers sell that same child’s  
25 persistent identifier to the Ad Network, bolstering the Ad Network’s profile of the child, increasing  
26 the value of the child’s data and, relatedly, the ability to serve a more highly-targeted ad to a  
27 specific device. Multiple Ad Networks or other third-parties can then buy and sell data, exchanging  
28 databases amongst themselves, creating an increasingly sophisticated and merchantable profile of



1 how, when, and why a child uses her mobile device, along with all of the demographic and  
2 psychographic inferences that can be drawn therefrom.

3 33. In sum, children’s personal information is collected by MobilityWare and its SDK  
4 partners, which is then sold to third parties who track and use the collected information and analyze  
5 it with sophisticated algorithms to create a user profile of the child. This profile is then used to  
6 serve behavioral advertising to children whose profile fits a set of demographic and behavioral  
7 traits.

8 **i. What Are Persistent Identifiers**

9 34. MobilityWare and its SDK partners track children’s behavior while they play online  
10 games with their mobile devices by obtaining critical pieces of data from the mobile devices,  
11 including “persistent identifiers.” These identifiers are a set of unique data points (typically  
12 numbers and letters), akin to a social security number, that can link one specific individual to all  
13 of the apps on her device and her activity on those apps, allowing her to be tracked over time and  
14 across devices (*e.g.* smart phones, tablets, laptops, desktops and smart TVs).

15 35. The common persistent identifiers for Apple are the ID for Advertisers (“IDFA”) and ID for Vendors (“IDFV”). Both the IDFA and the IDFV are unique, alphanumeric strings that  
16 are used to identify an individual device—and the individual who uses that device—in order to  
17 track and profile the user, and to serve her with targeted advertising.

18 36. The common persistent identifiers in the Android operating system are the Android  
19 Advertising ID (“AAID”) and the Android ID. The AAID and Android ID are unique,  
20 alphanumeric strings assigned to a user’s device and used by apps and third-parties to track and  
21 profile the user, and to serve her targeted advertising.

22 37. Additional persistent identifiers include data about a specific device, including  
23 details about its hardware—such as the device’s brand (*e.g.*, Apple or Android), the type of device  
24 (*e.g.*, iPhone, Galaxy, iPad)—and details about its software, such as its operation system (*e.g.*, iOS  
25 or Android). This data can also include more detailed information, such as the network carriers  
26 (*e.g.*, Sprint, T-Mobile, AT&T), whether it is connected to Wi-Fi, and the “name” of the device.  
27 The name of the device is often particularly personal, as the default device name is frequently  
28

1 configured to include users' first and/or last names (*e.g.*, "Jane Minor's iPhone"). In combination,  
2 the pieces of data provide a level of detail about the given device that allows that device and its  
3 user to be identified individually, uniquely, and persistently.

4 38. Defendants track, collect, and analyze these persistent identifiers in order to learn  
5 more about users, including their behaviors, demographics, and preferences, and, thereafter, to  
6 serve them with tailored and targeted advertising. Defendants also use persistent identifiers to track  
7 the effectiveness of those advertisements after the user sees them (to determine, for example,  
8 whether the user downloaded the app or bought the product advertised).

9 39. Defendants then store and analyze the Personal Data to enable continued tracking  
10 of the user, such as what ads she has already seen, what actions she took in response to those ads,  
11 other online behavior, and additional demographic data. This way, Defendants (and other entities  
12 in the ad network) can generally monitor, profile, track a user over time, across devices, and across  
13 the Internet.

14 40. The Center for Digital Democracy, and the FTC described how and why a persistent  
15 identifier alone facilitates behavioral advertising:

16 With the increasing use of new tracking and targeting techniques, any meaningful  
17 distinctions between personal and so-called non-personal information have disappeared.

18 This is particularly the case with the proliferation of personal digital devices such as smart  
19 phones and Internet-enabled game consoles, which are increasingly associated with  
20 individual users, rather than families. This means that marketers do not need to know the  
21 name, address, or email of a user in order to identify, target and contact that particular user.

22 *See* Comments of The Center for Digital Democracy, et al., FTC, In the Matter of Children's  
23 Online Privacy Protection Rule at 13-14 (Dec. 23, 2011).<sup>7</sup>

24 **ii. MobilityWare Collects Persistent Identifiers and More**

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26 <sup>7</sup> *See also* Jessica Rich, Director, FTC Bureau of Consumer Protection, Keeping Up with the  
27 Online Advertising Industry (Apr. 21, 2016), available at [https://www.ftc.gov/news-  
28 events/blogs/business-blog/2016/04/keeping-online-advertising-industry](https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/blogs/business-blog/2016/04/keeping-online-advertising-industry) (accessed Oct. 15,  
2020).

1           41.     As soon as a user opens up one of MobilityWare’s Gaming Apps, MobilityWare  
2 collects users’ first and last names, usernames, unique personal identifiers, online identifiers,  
3 Internet Protocol addresses, email addresses, or other similar identifiers. *See Exhibit 2* (Privacy  
4 Policy).

5           42.     MobilityWare also collects Gaming App users’ geo-location,<sup>8</sup> passwords, and other  
6 specific identifying information. *Id.*

7           43.     As soon as a user plays one of the Gaming Apps, MobilityWare automatically  
8 collects the following categories of information:

9           i.       **Specific device information**, including a user’s hardware model, operating system  
10           and version, unique device identifiers, device software platform and firmware, data  
11           about usage of the Gaming Apps, geographical data and mobile network  
12           information, and other data.

13           ii.       **Information about a user’s use of the Gaming Apps**, including the type of  
14           browser used, access times, pages viewed, game play activity, interactions with  
15           other players, user’s IP address and the page a user visited before navigating to the  
16           Gaming Apps.

17           iii.       **Information collected by cookies, web beacons, and other tracking**  
18           **technologies**, including the pages users view, users’ movements around the  
19           Gaming Apps, the links users click and other actions users take on the Gaming  
20           Apps to understand usage and ad campaign effectiveness.

21           iv.       **Protected classification characteristics** under California or federal law, including  
22           age and sex (including gender).

23           v.       **Professional or employment-related information**, including current or past job  
24           history or performance evaluations.

25 \_\_\_\_\_  
26 <sup>8</sup> As the Supreme Court recently recognized in *Carpenter v. United States*, 138 S. Ct. 2206  
27 (2018), location data is highly sensitive, not just because of what the data point alone says about  
28 an individual (*i.e.*, where they were at a particular time), but also because of the massive amount  
of personal information that can be extracted from location data (such as medical treatment,  
personal relationships, and private interests).

1 vi. **Commercial information**, including products or services purchased or considered  
2 in the past and other purchasing and consuming histories or tendencies.

3 vii. **Internet or other similar network activity**, including browsing history, search  
4 history, and information on a consumer's interaction with a website, application, or  
5 advertisement.

6 viii. **Geo-location data**, including physical location and movements.

7 ix. **Information regarding a user's preferences**, characteristics, psychological trends,  
8 predispositions, and behavior.

9 x. **Equipment information**, including information about a user's internet connection,  
10 the equipment used to access the Gaming Apps, and usage details. *Id.*

11 44. MobilityWare also uses mobile analytics software to record information such as  
12 how often users use the Gaming Apps, the events that occur within the Gaming Apps, performance  
13 data, and where the Gaming App was downloaded from (*e.g.* Apple Store, Google Play Store). *Id.*

14 45. MobilityWare then matches and combines this information automatically collected  
15 from users' devices with personal information obtained from users or other sources, including third  
16 parties from whom MobilityWare purchases data. *Id.*

17 46. For example, MobilityWare receives reports from its partners, such as Google  
18 Analytics that provide it with this collected information on an individual basis. *Id.*

19 47. MobilityWare also collects information, such as users' IP addresses from social  
20 networking sites like Facebook, Twitter or LinkedIn.

21 48. MobilityWare processes, uses, combines, discloses, and retains such information to  
22 manage and deliver contextual and behavioral advertising to users of the Gaming Apps. *Id.*

23 49. In sum, MobilityWare collect a host of other items of Personal Data to comingle  
24 those into expansive data profiles, which it then sells to third party SDKs.

25 **iii. MobilityWare Discloses and Sells Gaming App Users' Personal Information**  
26 **to Third Parties**

27 50. With this combined Personal Data, MobilityWare tracks, profiles, and targets users  
28 for advertising purposes, and sells this combined information to third-party SDKs who do the same.

1           51. Defendant MobilityWare has contracted with at least thirty-eight (38) SDKs for  
2 advertising purposes during the proposed Class Period. *See Exhibit 3* (Cookie Policy).

3           52. A user’s personal information is transferred to, stored, and processed throughout  
4 the United States and to MobilityWare’s affiliates, partners, and service providers located around  
5 the world.

6           53. With these SDKs, MobilityWare collects and shares the following data:

- 7           i. Performance Data
- 8           ii. IP address, IDFAs, and hashed Android ID;
- 9           iii. User’s social network ID; and/or
- 10          iv. Other contextual data about a user’s game play. *See Exhibit 2.*

11          54. The information collected is used to measure the effectiveness of the ads, offer  
12 targeting advertising, and undertake web analytics (like Google analytics). *Id.* Defendants collect  
13 this information through the use of tracking technologies and share this information with their  
14 customers and clients.

15          55. Defendants use such personal information to personalize the Gaming Apps to  
16 deliver content and product and service offerings relevant to a user’s interests, including targeted  
17 offers and ads.

18          56. Within the past year, MobilityWare has disclosed and/or sold the following  
19 categories of personal information to third party SDKs:

- 20          i. User Names (*e.g.* a real name, alias, etc.), unique personal identifier, online  
21             identifier, Internet Protocol address, email address, or other similar  
22             identifiers;
- 23          ii. Protected classification characteristics under California or federal law,  
24             including age and sex,
- 25          iii. Commercial information, including products or services purchased,  
26             obtained, or considered, or other purchasing or consuming histories or  
27             tendencies;
- 28          iv. Internet and other similar network activity, including browsing history,

1 search history, information on a user’s interaction with the Gaming Apps or  
2 advertisements;

3 v. Inferences drawn from other personal information, including profile  
4 reflecting a person's preferences, characteristics, psychological trends,  
5 predispositions, and behavior, and;

6 vi. Equipment information, including information about a user’s internet  
7 connection, the equipment used to access the Gaming Apps, and usage  
8 details.<sup>9</sup>

9 57. The exfiltration of this Personal Data, the purposes for which it is used, and the lack  
10 of restrictions placed on its exfiltration, retention, and use violate users’ privacy.

11 **C. The Privacy-Invasive and Manipulative Commercial Purposes Behind Defendants’**  
12 **Data Exfiltration, and its Effect on Child Users.**

13 **i. The Role of Persistent Identifiers in User Profiling and Targeted Advertising**

14 58. MobilityWare and the SDK Defendants, in coordination, collect and use the  
15 Personal Data described above to track, profile, and target children with targeted advertising.

16 59. When children are tracked over time and across the Internet, various activities are  
17 linked to a unique and persistent identifier to construct a profile of the user of a given mobile  
18 device. Viewed in isolation, a persistent identifier is merely a string of numbers uniquely  
19 identifying a user, but when linked to other data points about the same user, such as app usage,  
20 geographic location (including likely domicile), and Internet navigation, it discloses a personal  
21 profile that can be exploited in a commercial context.

22 60. Defendants aggregate this data, and also buy it from and sell it to other third parties,  
23 all the while amassing more data points on users to build ever-expanding profiles for enhanced  
24 targeting. Across the burgeoning online advertising ecosystem – often referred to as the “mobile  
25 digital marketplace” – multiple ad networks or other third-parties can buy and sell data, exchanging  
26

27 \_\_\_\_\_  
28 <sup>9</sup> MobilityWare Privacy Policy (Apr. 24, 2020), *available at*  
<https://www.mobilityware.com/privacy> (accessed Oct. 26, 2020).

1 databases amongst themselves, creating an increasingly sophisticated profile of how, when, and  
2 why a child uses her mobile device, along with all of the demographic and psychographic  
3 inferences that can be drawn therefrom.

4 61. Similarly, a critical (and thus, fiercely desired) component of user profiles is an  
5 individual’s geolocation, which the FTC describes as a “key data point” for advertisers.<sup>10</sup>

6 62. The Federal Trade Commission (the “FTC”) provides an illustration of these  
7 precise data points being used to amass a data profile, via an SDK embedded within an app. In its  
8 2012 report entitled “Mobile Apps for Kids: Disclosures Still Not Making the Grade,” (the “FTC  
9 Mobile Apps for Kids Report”) addressing privacy dangers for children in the app space, the FTC  
10 cited forensic analysis in which:

11 [O]ne ad network received information from 31 different apps. Two of these apps  
12 transmitted geolocation to the ad network along with a device identifier, and the  
13 other 29 apps *transmitted other data (such as app name, device configuration*  
14 *details, and the time and duration of use) in conjunction with a device ID. The ad*  
15 *network could thus link the geolocation information obtained through the two apps*  
16 *to all the other data collected through the other 29 apps by matching the unique,*  
17 *persistent device ID.*<sup>11</sup>

18 63. The FTC expressed particular “[c]oncerns about creations of detailed profiles based  
19 on device IDs [such as those created and facilitated by Defendants]...where...companies (like ad  
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21 <sup>10</sup> *Track or Treat? InMobi’s location tracking ignored consumers’ privacy settings*, Federal  
22 Trade Commission, (June 22, 2016) (*available* [https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/blogs/business-  
23 blog/2016/06/track-or-treat-inmobis-location-tracking-ignored-consumers](https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/blogs/business-blog/2016/06/track-or-treat-inmobis-location-tracking-ignored-consumers) (accessed on Oct. 15,  
2020)).

24 <sup>11</sup> *Mobile Apps for Kids: Disclosures Still Not Making the Grade*, Federal Trade Commission, FTC  
25 Staff Report (Dec. 2012), at 10 n. 25 (emphasis added) (citing David Norris, *Cracking the Cookie  
26 Conundrum with Device ID*, AdMonsters (Feb. 14, 2012) (*available at*  
27 [https://www.ftc.gov/sites/default/files/documents/reports/mobile-apps-kids-disclosures-still-not-  
28 making-grade/121210mobilekidsappreport.pdf](https://www.ftc.gov/sites/default/files/documents/reports/mobile-apps-kids-disclosures-still-not-making-grade/121210mobilekidsappreport.pdf) (accessed on Oct. 15, 2020) (“Device ID  
technology is the ideal solution to the problem of remembering what a user has seen and what  
actions he or she has taken: over time, between devices and across domains. . . . Device ID can  
also help businesses understand visitor behavior across devices belonging to the same person or  
the same residence.”)).

1 networks and analytics providers) collect IDs and other user information through a vast network  
2 of mobile apps. This practice can allow information gleaned about a user through one app to be  
3 linked to information gleaned about the same user through other apps.”<sup>12</sup>

4 64. Defendants traffic in the same data identified by the FTC (persistent identifiers such  
5 as IDFA/Android ID and device-specific data) causing the same harm identified by the FTC:  
6 allowing ad networks to combine data points about child users from a multitude of apps.

7 65. The FTC Mobile Apps for Kids Report cautions that it is standard practice—and  
8 long has been standard practice—for ad networks, mobile advertisers, and ad middlemen  
9 (including, for example, Defendants and their partners and agents) to link the persistent identifiers  
10 they acquire with *additional* Personal Data—such as name, address, email address—allowing  
11 those entities and their partners to identify individual users whom they profile with indisputable,  
12 individual specificity.<sup>13</sup>

13 66. Indeed, key digital privacy and consumer groups have described why and how a  
14 persistent identifier alone facilitates targeted advertising and challenges—effectively rendering  
15 meaningless—any claims of “anonymized” identifiers:

16 With the increasing use of new tracking and targeting techniques, any meaningful  
17 distinctions between personal and so-called nonpersonal information have  
18 disappeared. This is particularly the case with the proliferation of personal digital  
19 devices such as smart phones and Internet-enabled game consoles, which are  
20 increasingly associated with individual users, rather than families. This means that  
21 marketers do not need to know the name, address, or email of a user in order to  
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24 <sup>12</sup> *Id.* at 9.

25 <sup>13</sup> *Id.* at 10 n. 25 (citing Jennifer Valentino-DeVries, *Privacy Risk Found on Cellphone Games*,  
26 *Digits Blog*, Wall St. J. (Sept. 19, 2011), available at  
27 <http://blogs.wsj.com/digits/2011/09/19/privacy-risk-found-on-cellphone-games/> (noting how app  
28 developers and mobile ad networks often use device IDs to keep track of user accounts and store  
them along with more sensitive information like name, location, e-mail address or social-  
networking data) (accessed on Oct. 15, 2020).



1 identify, target and contact that particular user.<sup>14</sup>

2 67. A 2014 report by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental  
3 Affairs entitled “Online Advertising and Hidden Hazards to Consumer Security and Data Privacy”  
4 amplifies this concern in light of the growth of third-party trackers that operate behind the scenes  
5 in routine online traffic:

6 Although consumers are becoming increasingly vigilant about safeguarding the  
7 information they share on the Internet, many are less informed about the plethora  
8 of information created about them by online companies as they travel the Internet.  
9 A consumer may be aware, for example, that a search engine provider may use the  
10 search terms the consumer enters in order to select an advertisement targeted to his  
11 interests. Consumers are less aware, however, of the true scale of the data being  
12 collected about their online activity. A visit to an online news site may trigger  
13 interactions with hundreds of other parties that may be collecting information on  
14 the consumer as he travels the web. The Subcommittee found, for example, a trip  
15 to a popular tabloid news website triggered a user interaction with some 352 other  
16 web servers as well....The sheer volume of such activity makes it difficult for even  
17 the most vigilant consumer to control the data being collected or protect against its  
18 malicious use.<sup>15</sup>

19 68. In the course of disclosing Personal Data to select and serve an advertisement (or  
20 to conduct any third-party analytics or otherwise monetize user data), MobilityWare and its partner  
21 SDKs pass identifying user data to an ever-increasing host of third-parties, who, in turn, may pass  
22 along that same data to *their* affiliates. Each entity may use that data to track users over time and  
23 across the Internet, on a multitude of increasingly complex online pathways, with the shared goal  
24 of targeting users with advertisements.

25 69. The ability to serve targeted advertisements to (or to otherwise profile) a specific  
26 user no longer turns upon obtaining the kinds of data with which most consumers are familiar

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28 <sup>14</sup> Comments of The Center for Digital Democracy, *et al.*, FTC, *In the Matter of Children’s  
Online Privacy Protection Rule* at 13-14 (Dec. 23, 2011).

<sup>15</sup> Staff Report, *Online Advertising and Hidden Hazards to Consumer Security and Data  
Privacy*, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the U.S. Senate Homeland Security and  
Governmental Affairs Committee (May 15, 2014), at 1, available at  
[https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/media/permanent-subcommittee-on-investigations-releases-report-  
online-advertising-and-hidden-hazards-to-consumer-security-and-data-privacy-](https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/media/permanent-subcommittee-on-investigations-releases-report-online-advertising-and-hidden-hazards-to-consumer-security-and-data-privacy-) (accessed Oct.  
15, 2020).

1 (name, email addresses, etc.), but instead on the surreptitious collection of persistent identifiers,  
2 which are used in conjunction with other data points to build robust online profiles. These  
3 persistent identifiers are better tracking tools than traditional identifiers because they are unique to  
4 each individual, making them more akin to a social security number. Once a persistent identifier  
5 is sent “into the marketplace,” it is exposed to—and thereafter may be collected and used by—an  
6 almost innumerable set of third-parties.

7 70. Permitting technology companies to obtain children’s persistent identifiers exposes  
8 those children to targeted advertising. The ad networks, informed by the surreptitious collection  
9 of Personal Data from children, will assist in the sale of advertising placed within the gaming apps  
10 and targeted specifically to children.

11 71. As established above, Defendants exfiltrate children’s Personal Data or other  
12 information about their online behavior, which is then sold to third-parties, who track multiple data  
13 points associated with a user’s personal identifier, analyzed with the sophisticated algorithms to  
14 create a user profile, and then used to serve targeted advertising to children whose profiles fit a set  
15 of demographic and behavioral traits.

16 **D. Defendants Use Children’s Personal Data to Target and Profile Them, Despite**  
17 **Children’s Heightened Vulnerability to Advertising**

18 72. Defendants use children’s Personal Data to serve them targeted advertising and for  
19 other privacy-invasive commercial purposes. Defendants engage in this behavior despite the  
20 known risks associated with and ethical norms surrounding advertising to children.<sup>16</sup>

21 73. Advertisers regard children as valuable advertising targets.<sup>17</sup> Children influence the  
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23 <sup>16</sup> Kristien Daems, Patrick De Pelsmacker & Ingrid Moons, *Advertisers’ perceptions regarding*  
24 *the ethical appropriateness of new advertising formats aimed at minors*, J. of Marketing  
25 Communications (2017) at 13 (“In general, all advertising professionals acknowledge that  
26 children are a vulnerable advertising target group.”), available at  
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13527266.2017.1409250?scroll=top&needAccess=true&journalCode=rjmc20> (accessed Oct. 15, 2020).

27 <sup>17</sup> Issie Lapowsky, “*Why Teens are the Most Elusive and Valuable Customers in Tech*,” Inc.,  
28 available at <https://www.inc.com/issie-lapowsky/inside-massive-tech-land-grab-teenagers.html>  
(accessed Oct. 15, 2020).

1 buying patterns of their families—an influence that amounts to billions of dollars each year—and  
2 have lucrative spending power themselves.<sup>18</sup> Children and teens are thus prime targets for  
3 advertisers.

4 74. MobilityWare intentionally profits from embedding SDKs, to collect and exploit  
5 children’s Personal Data, into its “free-to-play” Gaming Apps.

6 75. Defendants target advertising efforts at children despite widespread awareness that  
7 children are more vulnerable to deception by advertisers because they are easily influenced by its  
8 content, lack the cognitive skills to understand the intention of advertisers, and can struggle to  
9 distinguish between advertisements and other content.<sup>19</sup> This is particularly problematic when  
10 targeted advertising is used which, by design, more effectively sways target audiences.<sup>20</sup>

11 76. Research supports that online advertisements pose heightened risks to children.<sup>21</sup>

12 77. Exposure to advertising can also lead to negative outcomes for children, including  
13 increasing conflict with their parents, cynicism, health issues, and increased materialism.<sup>22</sup>

14 78. Children often lack the skills and knowledge necessary to assess and appreciate the  
15 risks associated with online data exfiltration and tracking.<sup>23</sup> Even attempts to disclose privacy-

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17 <sup>18</sup> Sandra L. Calvert, *Children as Consumers: Advertising and Marketing*, 18 *Future Child* 205,  
18 207 (2008).

19 <sup>19</sup> Xiaomei Cai and Xiaoquan Zhao, *Online Advertising on Popular Children’s Websites: Structural Features and Privacy Issues*, 29 *Computers in Human Behavior* 1510-1518 (2013) (collecting studies); *Children as Consumers: Advertising and Marketing*, *supra*; *Advertisers’ perceptions regarding the ethical appropriateness of new advertising formats aimed at minors*, *supra*, (collecting studies).

22 <sup>20</sup> Olesya Venger, *Internet Research in Online Environments for Children: Readability of Privacy and Terms of Use Policies; The Uses of (Non)Personal Data by Online Environments and Third-Party Advertisers*, 10 *Journal of Virtual Worlds Research* 1, 8 (2017).

24 <sup>21</sup> *Online Advertising on Popular Children’s Websites: Structural Features and Privacy Issues*, *supra* (collecting studies); *Children as Consumers: Advertising and Marketing*, *supra*; *Advertisers’ perceptions regarding the ethical appropriateness of new advertising formats aimed at minors*, *supra* (collecting studies).

26 <sup>22</sup> *Children as Consumers: Advertising and Marketing*, *supra*.

28 <sup>23</sup> Ilene R. Berson & Michael J. Berson, *Children and their Digital Dossiers: Lessons in Privacy Rights in the Digital Age*, 21 *Int’l J. of Social Education* 135 (2006).

1 violative behavior are not easily understood. Research has found that policies explaining the  
2 exfiltration and use of children’s data are difficult even for adults to understand, and marketers  
3 make no effort to explain their targeted marketing practices to child and teen audiences in  
4 developmentally appropriate and easy-to-understand ways.<sup>24</sup> This practice “could mislead these  
5 vulnerable emerging consumers into thinking that they are only playing games and their data are  
6 not collected for any purpose.” *Id.* at 10.

7 **E. Defendants Exfiltrate and Analyze Children’s Personal Data to Track the Effect of**  
8 **Their Ads on Children’s Behavior.**

9 79. Defendants exfiltrate and analyze users’ Personal Data before and after serving  
10 advertisements. On the front end, the data helps them know what ads to serve (based on users’  
11 demographics and behaviors). On the back end, the data helps them determine whether the ad is  
12 successful in affecting children’s behavior. This is called ad attribution.

13 80. Defendants track the impact and value of ads by tracking users’ activities across the  
14 Internet after they interact with those ads.

15 81. Defendants exfiltrate Plaintiff’s and Class Members’ children’s Personal Data from  
16 their devices in order to target them for advertising based on their behavior, demographics, and  
17 location. Defendants continue to track Plaintiff’s and Class Members’ children via their Personal  
18 Data after ads are shown in order to monitor their behavior into the future, and analyze whether  
19 and how it was influenced by those same ads. This ongoing exfiltration, tracking, and analysis  
20 violate Plaintiff’s and Class Members’ children’s privacy and exploit the vulnerabilities of their  
21 children.

22 **F. State Privacy Laws Protect Children and Their Parents from Privacy- Invasive**  
23 **Tracking, Profiling, and Targeting of Children Online**

24 82. Invasion of privacy has been recognized as a common law tort for over a century.  
25 *Matera v. Google Inc.*, 15-CV-0402, 2016 WL 5339806, at \*10 (N.D. Cal, Sept. 23, 2016) (citing  
26 Restatement (Second) of Torts §§ 652A-I for the proposition “that the right to privacy was first  
27 \_\_\_\_\_

28 <sup>24</sup> *Internet Research in Online Environments for Children, supra.*

1 accepted by an American court in 1905, and ‘a right to privacy is now recognized in the great  
2 majority of the American jurisdictions that have considered the question’”). *Id.* As Justice Brandeis  
3 explained in his seminal article, *The Right to Privacy*, “[t]he common law secures to each  
4 individual the right of determining, ordinarily, to what extent his thoughts, sentiments, and  
5 emotions shall be communicated to others.” Samuel D. Warren & Louis Brandeis, *The Right to*  
6 *Privacy*, 4 HARV. L. REV. 193, 198 (1890). The Second Restatement of Torts recognizes the  
7 same privacy rights through its tort of intrusion upon seclusion, explaining that “[o]ne who  
8 intentionally intrudes, physically or otherwise, upon the solitude or seclusion of another or his  
9 private affairs or concerns, is subject to liability to the other for invasion of his privacy.”  
10 Restatement (Second) of Torts § 652B (1977).

11 83. The Supreme Court has similarly recognized the primacy of privacy rights,  
12 explaining that the Constitution operates in the shadow of a “right to privacy older than the Bill of  
13 Rights.” *Griswold v. Connecticut*, 381 U.S. 479, 486 (1965).

14 84. The Supreme Court explicitly recognized the reasonable expectation of privacy an  
15 individual has in her cell phone, and the Personal Data generated therefrom, in its opinion in  
16 *Carpenter v. United States*, 138 S. Ct. 2206 (2018). There, the Court held that continued access to  
17 an individual’s cell phone location data constituted a search under the Fourth Amendment, and  
18 that the third-party doctrine (which obviates Fourth Amendment protections when a party  
19 knowingly provides information that is the subject of the search to third-parties) did not apply to  
20 such data. Critical to the Court’s analysis was the fact that:

21 a cell phone—almost a “feature of human anatomy[.]”—tracks nearly exactly the  
22 movements of its owner....A cell phone faithfully follows its owner beyond public  
23 thoroughfares and into private residences, doctor’s offices, political headquarters,  
24 and other potentially revealing locales....Accordingly, when the Government  
25 tracks the location of a cell phone it achieves near perfect surveillance, as if it had  
26 attached an ankle monitor to the phone’s user.

27 *Id.* at 2218 (internal citations omitted).

28 85. It is precisely because of devices’ capacity for “near perfect surveillance” that

1 courts have consistently held that time-honored legal principles recognizing a right to privacy in  
2 one's affairs naturally apply to online monitoring.

3 86. California amended its constitution in 1972 to specifically enumerate a right to  
4 privacy in its very first section. *See* Cal. Const. Art. I, § 1.

5 **i. Defendants' Surreptitious and Deceptive Collection of Personal Data Violates**  
6 **Children's Reasonable Expectations of Privacy and is Highly Offensive.**

7 87. A reasonable person believes the Defendants' conduct, described above, violates  
8 Plaintiff's and her children's, and Class Members' and their children's expectations of privacy.

9 88. A survey conducted by the Center for Digital Democracy ("CDD") and Common  
10 Sense Media of more than 2,000 adults found overwhelming support for the basic principles of  
11 privacy embedded in state common law, as well as federal law.<sup>25</sup>

12 a. 75% of the parents who were polled strongly disagreed with the statement:  
13 "It is okay for advertisers to track and keep a record of a child's behavior  
14 online if they give the child free content."

15 b. 69% of the parents who were polled strongly disagreed with the statement:  
16 "As long as advertisers don't know a child's name and address, it is okay  
17 for them to collect and use information about the child's activity online."

18 c. 84% of the parents who were polled strongly disagreed with the statement:  
19 "It is okay for advertisers to collect information about a child's location  
20 from that child's mobile phone."

21 d. 89% of the parents who were polled strongly agreed with the statement:  
22 "Before advertisers put tracking software on a child's computer, advertisers  
23 should receive the parent's permission." *Id.*

24 89. In a 2013 primer designed for parents and kids to understand their privacy rights  
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26 <sup>25</sup> Center for Digital Democracy, Survey on Children and Online Privacy, Summary of Methods  
27 and Findings, *available at*  
28 <https://www.democraticmedia.org/sites/default/files/COPPA%20Executive%20Summary%20and%20Findings.pdf> (accessed on October 14, 2020).

1 online, the CDD noted similar findings.<sup>26</sup>

2 a. 91% of both parents and adults believe it is not okay for advertisers to collect  
3 information about a child’s location from that child’s mobile phone.

4 b. 96% of parents and 94% of adults expressed disapproval when asked if it is  
5 “OK for a website to ask children for personal information about their friends.”

6 c. 94% of parents, as well as 91% of adults, believe that advertisers should receive  
7 the parent’s permission before putting tracking software on a child’s computer.

8 90. In a Pew Research Center study, nearly 800 Internet and smartphone users were  
9 asked the question, “how much do you care that only you and those you authorize should have  
10 access to information about where you are located when you use the Internet?” 54% of adult  
11 Internet users responded “very important,” 16% responded “somewhat important,” and 26%  
12 responded “not too important.”<sup>27</sup>

13 91. According to the same study, “86% of Internet users have tried to be anonymous  
14 online and taken at least one step to try to mask their behavior or avoid being tracked.” For example,  
15 64% of adults claim to clear their cookies and browser histories in an attempt to be less visible  
16 online.

17 92. Smartphone owners are particularly active when it comes to these behaviors. Some  
18 50% of smartphone owners have cleared their phone’s browsing or search history, while 30% have  
19 turned off the location tracking feature on their phone due to concerns over who might access that  
20 information.<sup>28</sup> Such behaviors exemplify people’s expectation that their personal information—  
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22 <sup>26</sup> See Center for Digital Democracy, *The New Children’s Online Privacy Rules: What Parents*  
23 *Need to Know*, (June 2013), available at  
24 <https://www.democraticmedia.org/sites/default/files/CDDCOPPParentguideJune2013.pdf>  
(accessed October 15, 2020).

25 <sup>27</sup> Lee Rainie, et al., *Anonymity, Privacy, and Security Online*, Pew Research Center 7 (Sept. 5,  
26 2013), available at <https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2013/09/05/anonymity-privacy-and-security-online/> (accessed October 15, 2020).

27 <sup>28</sup> Jan Lauren Boyles, et al., “*Privacy and Data Management on Mobile Devices*,” Pew Research  
28 Center, Sept. 5, 2012, available at <https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2012/09/05/privacy-and-data-management-on-mobile-devices/> (accessed October 15, 2020).

1 including their location—not be tracked by others online. However, children and the elderly often  
2 lack the technical know how to clear their history or adjust their tracking settings.

3 93. In another study by the Pew Research Center on the Internet and American

4 94. Life, respondents were asked, “Which of the following statements comes closest to  
5 exactly how you, personally, feel about targeted advertising being used online—even if neither is  
6 exactly right?” Sixty-eight percent said, “I’m not okay with it because I don’t like having my  
7 online behavior tracked and analyzed.” Twenty-eight percent said, “I’m okay with it because it  
8 means I see ads and get information about things I’m really interested in.”<sup>29</sup> Thus, more often than  
9 not, attitudes toward data collection for use in targeted advertising are negative.

10 95. A survey of 802 parents and their 12- to 17-year-old children showed that “81% of  
11 parents of online teens say they are concerned about how much information advertisers can learn  
12 about their child’s online behavior, with some 46% being ‘very’ concerned.”<sup>30</sup>

13 96. A study comparing the opinions of young adults between the ages of 18 to 23 with  
14 other typical age categories (25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, and 65+) found that a large percentage is  
15 in harmony with older Americans regarding concerns about online privacy, norms, and policy  
16 suggestions.<sup>31</sup> For example, 88% of young adults surveyed responded that “there should be a law  
17 that requires websites and advertising companies to delete all stored information about an  
18 individual”; for individuals in the 45-54 age range, 94% approved of such a law.

19 97. The same study noted that “[o]ne way to judge a person’s concern about privacy  
20 laws is to ask about the penalties that companies or individuals should pay for breaching them.” A  
21 majority of the 18-24 year olds polled selected the highest dollar amount of punishment (“more

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23 <sup>29</sup> Kristen Purcell, *et al.*, “*Search Engine Use*,” Pew Research Center March 9, 2012, available at  
24 <https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2012/03/09/search-engine-use-2012/> (accessed October  
15, 2020).

25 <sup>30</sup> Mary Madden, *et al.*, *Parents, Teens, and Online Privacy*, Pew Research Center November 20,  
26 2012, available at [https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2012/11/20/parents-teens-and-online-  
privacy/](https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2012/11/20/parents-teens-and-online-privacy/) (accessed October 15, 2020).

27 <sup>31</sup> Chris Hoofnagle, *et al.*, “*How Different Are Young Adults from Older Adults When It Comes to*  
28 *Information Privacy Attitudes & Policies?*,” Apr. 14, 2010, available at  
<http://ssrn.com/abstract=1589864> (accessed October 15, 2020).



1 than \$2,500”) in response to how a company should be fined if it purchases or uses someone’s  
2 personal information illegally; across all age groups, 69% of individuals opted for the highest fine.  
3 Finally, beyond a fine, around half of the sample (across all age groups) chose the harshest  
4 penalties for companies using a person’s information illegally: putting them out of business and  
5 jail time.

6 98. Another study’s “findings suggest that if Americans could vote on behavioral  
7 targeting today, they would shut it down.” The study found that 66% of one thousand polled  
8 individuals over the age of 18 did not want online advertisements tailored for them, and that when  
9 the same individuals were told that tailored advertising was “based on following them on other  
10 websites they have visited,” the percentage of respondent rejecting targeted advertising shot up to  
11 84%.<sup>32</sup>

12 99. Even when consumers are told that online companies will follow them  
13 “anonymously,” Americans are still averse to this tracking: 68% definitely would not allow it, and  
14 19% would probably not allow it.

15 100. The study found that 55% of 18-24 year old Americans rejected tailored advertising  
16 when they were not informed about the mechanics of such advertising. As with the general sample,  
17 the percentage of rejections shot up to 67% when those 18-24 year olds were informed that tailored  
18 advertising was based on their activities on the website they are visiting, and then 86% when  
19 informed that tailored ads were based on tracking on “other websites” they had visited. Despite  
20 the overwhelming aversion to targeted advertising, these findings suggest that public concern  
21 about privacy-intrusive targeted advertising is *understated* based on the fact that the public may  
22 not fully understand how a targeted advertisement is delivered. When properly understood by  
23 consumers, targeted advertising, and the tracking and profiling in the background, is decried across  
24 all age groups.

25 101. A survey on consumer expectations in the digital world, conducted by Deloitte’s  
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27 <sup>32</sup> Joseph Turow, et al., “*Contrary to What Marketers Say, Americans Reject Tailored*  
28 *Advertising and Three Activities that Enable It*,” Sept. 29, 2009, available at  
<http://ssrn.com/abstract=1478214> (accessed October 15, 2020).

1 Technology, Media & Telecommunications practice<sup>95</sup> and based on polling conducted in 2017 of  
2 2,088 individuals (from the following age groups: ages 14-20 (born 1997–2003); ages 21–34 (born  
3 1983–1996); ages 35-51 (born 1966-1982); ages 52-70 (born 1947-1965); ages 71+ (born 1946 or  
4 earlier) found:

- 5 a. Seventy-three percent of all U.S. consumers indicated they were concerned about  
6 sharing their personal data online and the potential for identity theft.
- 7 b. In 2017, there was a 10-point drop in willingness to share Personal Data in exchange  
8 for personalized advertising (from 37% to 27%).
- 9 c. The reason for the sudden change in U.S. consumers’ attitudes is they overwhelmingly  
10 lack confidence in companies’ ability to protect their data: 69% of respondents across  
11 generations believe that companies are not doing everything they can to protect  
12 consumers’ Personal Data.<sup>33</sup>
- 13 d. Seventy-three percent of all consumers across all generations said they would be more  
14 comfortable sharing their data if they had some visibility and control. In addition, 93%  
15 of U.S. consumers believe they should be able to delete their online data at their  
16 discretion.

17 102. In the same vein, one news organization recently summarized a *Journal of*  
18 *Consumer Research* article capturing society’s discomfort with and feelings of revulsion toward  
19 the practice of targeted advertising and the data exfiltration required: “There’s something unnatural  
20 about the kind of targeting that’s become routine in the ad world, this paper suggests, something  
21 taboo, a violation of norms we consider inviolable — it’s just harder to tell they’re being violated  
22 online than off. But the revulsion we feel when we learn how we’ve been algorithmically targeted,  
23 the research suggests, is much the same as what we feel when our trust is betrayed in the analog  
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26 <sup>33</sup> Kevin Westcott, *et al.*, “*Digital Media Trends Survey: A New World of Choice for Digital*  
27 *Consumers*,” Center for Technology, Media & Telecommunications, 12th ed., March 19, 2018,  
28 *available at* <https://www2.deloitte.com/us/en/insights/industry/technology/digital-media-trends-consumption-habits-survey-2018.html> (accessed October 15, 2020).

1 world.”<sup>34</sup>

2 103. By collecting and sharing Plaintiff’s and her children’s Personal Data in order to  
3 assist in profiling and tracking them across multiple online platforms, and failing to obtain  
4 Plaintiff’s permission, Defendants have breached Plaintiff’s and her children’s expectations of  
5 privacy.

6 104. Legislative enactments also reflect society’s growing concern for digital privacy.

7 105. For example, California’s Shine the Light Law, Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.83, provides  
8 that companies that share a user’s personal information with a third-party for direct marketing  
9 purposes must disclose to consumers, upon request, the category of personal information that is  
10 shared and the identities of the third-parties receiving the personal information.

11 106. The California Online Privacy Protect Act of 2003 (“CalOPPA”), Cal. Bus. & Prof.  
12 Code § 22575, provides that an operator of an online service that collects “personally identifiable  
13 information” must provide notice in a public privacy policy to California consumers of, *inter alia*,  
14 any categories of such information collected and whether other parties may collect such  
15 information “overtime and across different Web sites” when a consumer uses the operator’s service.

16 107. The California Consumer Privacy Act (2018) (“CCPA”) secures privacy rights for  
17 California consumers, including the right to know about the personal information a business  
18 collects about them and how it is used and shared; the right to delete personal information collected  
19 from businesses, and the right to opt-out of the sale of their personal information. *See* Cal. Civ.  
20 Code § 1798.120(c).

21 108. Scholarly literature about the evolution of privacy norms recognizes society’s  
22 expectation of determining for oneself when, how, and the extent to which information about one  
23 is shared with others.

24 109. Self-regulation agencies in the online advertising industry note the American  
25 consumer’s reasonable concern with online privacy (92% of Americans worry about their online  
26

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27 <sup>34</sup> Sam Biddle, “*You Can’t Handle the Truth about Facebook Ads, New Harvard Study Shows,*”  
28 The Intercept, May 9, 2018, available at [https://theintercept.com/2018/05/09/facebook-adstracking-algorithm/?utm\\_source=digg&utm\\_medium=email](https://theintercept.com/2018/05/09/facebook-adstracking-algorithm/?utm_source=digg&utm_medium=email) (accessed June 4, 2018).

1 data privacy) and the top causes of that concern include Defendants' conduct at issue here:  
2 companies collecting and sharing personal information with other companies.<sup>35</sup>

3 **iv. Defendants Breach of Privacy Norms Is Compounded by Defendants'**  
4 **Targeting, Tracking, and Profiling of Children.**

5 110. Defendants' unlawful intrusion into Plaintiff's child's privacy is made even more  
6 egregious and offensive by the fact that MobilityWare and its SDK partners have targeted and  
7 collected *children's* information, without obtaining parental consent.

8 111. Parents' interest in the care, custody, and control of their children is perhaps the  
9 oldest of the fundamental liberty interests recognized by society. The history of Western  
10 civilization reflects a strong tradition of parental concern for the nurture and upbringing of children  
11 in light of children's vulnerable predispositions. Our society recognizes that parents should  
12 maintain control over who interacts with their children and how, in order to ensure the safe and  
13 fair treatment of their children.

14 112. Children are especially susceptible to online tracking and the resulting behavioral  
15 advertising. As children's cognitive abilities continually develop, they have limited understanding  
16 of awareness of sophisticated advertising and therefore are less likely than adults to distinguish  
17 between the actual content of online gaming apps and the advertising content that is targeted to  
18 them alongside it. Thus, children may engage with advertising content without realizing they are  
19 doing so. *See* Comments of The Center for Digital Democracy, et al., FTC, In the Matter of  
20 Children's Online Privacy Protection Rule at 13-14 (Dec. 23, 2011).

21 113. Because children are more susceptible to deception and exploitation than adults,  
22 society has recognized the importance of providing added legal protections for children, often in  
23 the form of parental consent requirements.

24 114. By way of example, American society has expressed heightened concern for the  
25 exploitation of children in numerous ways:

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27 <sup>35</sup> *Data Privacy is a Major Concern for Consumers*, TrustArc Blog, (Jan. 28, 2015), available at  
28 <https://www.trustarc.com/blog/2015/01/28/data-privacy-concern-consumers/> (accessed on Oct.  
15, 2020).

1 a. At common law, children under the age of eighteen do not have full capacity  
2 to enter into binding contracts with others. The law shields minors from their lack  
3 of judgment, cognitive development, and experience.

4 b. Under state law, children are frequently protected via parental consent  
5 requirements. Cal. Civ. Code § 3344 requires “the prior consent of [a] parent or  
6 legal guardian” in order for a person to use the name or likeness of a minor under  
7 the age of eighteen for advertising purposes. The California Education Code does  
8 not allow access to personal data collected from students without parental consent.  
9 Cal. Educ. Code § 49076(a).

10 c. State laws also outright ban certain forms of targeted advertising to children.  
11 The California Student Online Personal Information Protection Act (“SOPIPA”)  
12 requires operators of mobile applications marketed for use in K-12 schools not  
13 engage in “targeted advertising,” “amass a profile” of children, or sell children’s  
14 information, based upon any information, including “persistent unique identifiers”  
15 (including geolocation), that the operator acquires via the mobile app.

16 d. The California Privacy Rights for California Minors in the Digital World  
17 Act similarly reveals society’s concern with the ability of sophisticated ad tech  
18 companies to exploit minors under the age of eighteen through targeted advertising,  
19 and thus bans certain types of targeted advertising. The Act was passed in part as a  
20 response to the surreptitious manner in which companies could exploit children’s  
21 information: “[w]eb sites and online advertising networks often use persistent  
22 identification systems - like a cookie in a person's browser, the unique serial number  
23 on a mobile phone, or the I.P. address of a computer - to collect information about  
24 a user's online activities and tailor ads for that person.”

25 e. The California Consumer Privacy Act (2018) (“CCPA”) provides that a  
26 business cannot sell the personal information of minors that are under 16 years of  
27 age without consent and cannot sell the personal information of minors that are  
28 under 13 years of age without parental or guardian consent. See Cal. Civ. Code §

1 1798.120(c).

2 f. At the federal level, the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act  
3 (“COPPA”), protects, inter alia, children’s personal information from being  
4 collected and used for targeted advertising purposes without parental consent, and  
5 reflects a clear nationwide norm about parents’ expectations to be involved in how  
6 companies profile and track their children online. Under COPPA, developers of  
7 child-focused apps, and any third parties working with these app developers, cannot  
8 lawfully obtain the personal information of children under 13 years of age without  
9 first obtaining verifiable parental consent.

10 COPPA defines “personal information” as including basic and commonly  
11 collected information such as names, email addresses, and social security  
12 numbers, but it also includes “persistent identifiers that can be used to  
13 recognize a user over time and across different Web sites or online services.”

14 16 C.F.R. § 312.2. COPPA’s broad definition of “personal information”  
15 includes: (1) first and last names; (2) physical address; (3) email address (4)  
16 screen name or user name; (5) telephone number; (6) geolocation data; or  
17 (7) other persistent identifiers such as IP address, a processor or device  
18 serial number, or unique device identifier.

19 115. Legislative commentary about the need for federal law to provide protections for  
20 children provides another expression of society’s expectation that companies should not track  
21 *children* online without obtaining parental consent. For example, when discussing the need for  
22 federal legislation to protect children’s privacy—which eventually led to Congress passing  
23 COPPA—Senator Richard Bryan (the primary author of the COPPA bill) stated: “Parents do not  
24 always have the knowledge, the ability, or the opportunity to monitor their children's online  
25 activities, and that is why Web site operators should get parental consent prior to soliciting personal  
26 information. The legislation that Senator McCain and I have introduced will *give parents the*  
27 *reassurance that when our children are on the Internet they will not be asked to give out personal*  
28

1 *information to commercial Web site operators without parental consent.”*<sup>36</sup>

2 116. The advertising industry’s own privacy standards, and the self-regulatory agencies  
3 which serve it, also support enhanced protections for children online, including obtaining parental  
4 consent.

5 117. For example, a survey of professionals in the advertising industry found that a  
6 “substantial majority of the respondents [advertising professionals] (79%) agrees that the  
7 collection of personal information of children should be prohibited,” and over “[h]alf of the  
8 advertisers (56.8%) agrees with this statement if teenagers are concerned.”<sup>37</sup>

9 118. Further, “[t]he majority of advertisers agree with the statement that parents should  
10 give their permission for the data collection of their children (89.5%) and teenagers (78.9%).”

11 119. In the same vein, the Children’s Advertising Review Unit, an arm of the advertising  
12 industry’s self-regulation branch, recommends that companies take the following steps, inter alia,  
13 to meet consumers’ reasonable expectations of privacy and avoid violating the law.<sup>38</sup>

14 a. Advertisers have special responsibilities when advertising to children or collecting data  
15 from children online. They should take into account the limited knowledge, experience,  
16 sophistication and maturity of the audience to which the message is directed. They  
17 should recognize that younger children have a limited capacity to evaluate the  
18 credibility of information, may not understand the persuasive intent of advertising, and  
19 may not even understand that they are being subject to advertising.

20 b. Operators should disclose passive means of collecting information from children (*e.g.*,  
21 navigational tracking tools, browser files, persistent identifiers, etc.) and what

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22  
23 <sup>36</sup> *S. 2326: Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998*, Hearing before Senate  
24 Subcommittee on Communications, S. Hrg. 105-1069, at 4 (Sept. 23, 1998) (Statement of Sen.  
Bryan)

25 <sup>37</sup> Kristien Daems, Patrick De Pelsmacker & Ingrid Moons, *Advertisers’ perceptions regarding*  
26 *the ethical appropriateness of new advertising formats aimed at minors*, J. Marketing Comms. 8  
(2017), *supra*, at 42.

27 <sup>38</sup> Children’s Advertising Review Unit, *Self-Regulatory Program for Children’s Advertising*  
28 (2014), *available at* <https://bbbprograms.org/programs/all-programs/car> (accessed Oct. 15,  
2020).

1 information is being collected.

- 2 c. Operators must obtain “verifiable parental consent” before they collect, use or disclose  
3 personal information to third-parties, except those who provide support for the internal  
4 operation of the website or online service and who do not use or disclose such  
5 information for any other purpose.
- 6 d. To respect the privacy of parents, operators should not maintain in retrievable form  
7 information collected and used for the sole purpose of obtaining verifiable parental  
8 consent or providing notice to parents, if consent is not obtained after a reasonable time.
- 9 e. Operators should ask screening questions in a neutral manner so as to discourage  
10 inaccurate answers from children trying to avoid parental permission requirements.
- 11 f. Age-screening mechanisms should be used in conjunction with technology (e.g., a  
12 session cookie) to help prevent underage children from going back and changing their  
13 age to circumvent age-screening.

14 120. By failing to (1) obtain parental consent, (2) disclose to parents the nature of their  
15 data collection practices, and (3) take other steps to preclude children from accessing apps that  
16 surreptitiously capture their Personal Data, Defendants have breached parents’ and their children’s  
17 reasonable expectation of privacy, in contravention of privacy norms that are reflected in consumer  
18 surveys, centuries of common law, state and federal statutes, legislative commentaries, industry  
19 standards and guidelines, and scholarly literature.

20 **G. MobilityWare’s Omissions and Misrepresentations Create the False Impression That**  
21 **Its Apps Are Compliant with Privacy Laws and Norms.**

22 121. MobilityWare markets the Gaming Apps as apps that are suitable for children, both  
23 explicitly (through public-facing representations) and implicitly (through the game’s content,  
24 design, and distribution channels).

25 122. Despite such marketing and representations—and despite having indisputable  
26 knowledge that children play the app—MobilityWare omits any meaningful mention of the  
27 privacy-invasive collection of Personal Data by the SDKs embedded within the Gaming Apps, and  
28



1 indeed makes affirmative misrepresentations regarding the collection of children’s Personal Data.

2 123. Such omissions and misrepresentations create the false impression that the Gaming  
3 Apps conform to established norms regarding children’s privacy, and that Defendants respect those  
4 norms.

5 **i. MobilityWare Markets the Gaming Apps as Suitable for Children and in**  
6 **Compliance With All Applicable Privacy Laws and Norms.**

7 124. MobilityWare expressly designed many of the Gaming Apps to be played by minor  
8 children.

9 125. For example, “Tropical Treats: Ice Cream Match 3” is a gaming app that includes  
10 child-like characters with cartoonish graphics, ice cream, and fun character names such as “Mother  
11 Moo” that are attractive to children.

12 126. The app description in the Google Play Store states: “Welcome to Paradise! Cruise  
13 the island in your ice cream truck solving scrumptiously fun puzzles and setting up new shops to  
14 grow your mouthwatering business. You’ll help Zoey and her spunky, sugared-up pals save the  
15 island from Mother Moo—a corporate cow who’s taken over paradise with her industrial ice cream.

16 127. The picture below is a true and correct copy of a screenshot taken from Tropical  
17 Treat’s opening screen:



1           128. In marketing the Gaming Apps as suitable for children, MobilityWare implicitly  
2 and explicitly purports to acknowledge and adhere to privacy-protective norms.

3           129. MobilityWare specifically holds the Gaming Apps out to its audience as being  
4 family friendly, knowing that its audience reasonably expects such an app *not* to engage in privacy  
5 violative behavior.

6           130. MobilityWare falsely represents that it does not collect children’s personal data in  
7 violation of any privacy laws or norms.

8           131. MobilityWare’s “Use by Minors” section in its privacy policy states in relevant  
9 part:

10           “If you are a minor under the age of 18, you must obtain your parent’s permission  
11 to access the site and our games. If you are under the age of 13, you are not  
12 permitted to access the site, use any of our services, or play any of our games. This  
13 site and all of our games are not intended for children under the age of 13 and we  
14 do not knowingly market to or collect, use or disclose information from children  
15 under the age of 13. If MobilityWare learns that we have inadvertently gathered  
16 personal information from children under such age, MobilityWare will take  
17 reasonable measures to promptly erase such personal information from our records.”  
18 *See Exhibit 2.*

19           132. However, in the App Store and Play Store, the Gaming Apps are rated as being  
20 appropriate for children. Specifically, the Gaming Apps are presented with an “E for Everyone”  
21 rating in the Google Play Store and an Age “4+” rating in the Apple App Store. *See Exhibit 1.*

22           133. As discussed above, MobilityWare represents that the Gaming Apps are safe for  
23 children and complies with all applicable privacy laws and data collection guidelines.

24           134. MobilityWare has deceived the public as to the data exfiltration functionality of the  
25 Gaming Apps. In so doing, it has created the false impression that the Gaming Apps adhere to  
26 child privacy norms.

27           135. MobilityWare does not attempt to obtain age verification on the Gaming Apps’ start  
28 screen.

          136. In some instances during the gaming experience, a pop-up will appear on a user’s  
screen that says “Quick Survey: Your Age?” The user can either select from four options: (a) 18-  
34; (b) 35-44; (c) 45-55; or (d) 56+; or the user may simply click an “X” button to exit out of the

1 pop-up.

2 137. MobilityWare’s belated implementation of age verification or age gating to identify  
3 child users of the Gaming Apps is illusory and does not protect children’s privacy.

4 138. MobilityWare’s purported age gating does not even attempt to identify users under  
5 18 years of age, as none of the age range options in the “Quick Survey: Your Age?” pop-ups are  
6 for children under 18 years of age.

7 139. MobilityWare’s age gating depends exclusively on the reliability of the user’s  
8 inputted data. It fails to require any method to verify a user’s age, explain the purpose behind  
9 requiring a user to provide their age, or contain any advisory message that minors should not  
10 themselves download the app. As such, MobilityWare’s age gating can be easily circumvented  
11 with uninformed and inaccurate self-reporting, and therefore fails to adhere to minimal standards  
12 of best practices.

13 140. The presence of MobilityWare’s age gate heightens the intrusiveness of the app and  
14 increases the potential for the exfiltration of child users’ Personal Data, because the mere presence  
15 of the age gate implies that MobilityWare will abide by social norms that require parental consent  
16 before conducting business with a minor.

17 141. MobilityWare has control over and responsibility for any advertising and data  
18 mining permitted by or undertaken in its app. MobilityWare has failed to safeguard children’s  
19 personal information and failed to ensure that third parties’ collection of data from children is  
20 lawful, in part, by allowing its SDK partners to embed advertising SDKs in its family-friendly  
21 games.

22 **H. Named Plaintiff Allegations**

23 142. In or around 2017 and 2018 Plaintiff Rona Komins or her children downloaded  
24 MobilityWare’s Solitaire and Freecell Solitaire gaming apps onto B.K.’s and M.K.’s mobile  
25 devices for B.K. and M.K. to play. B.K. and M.K. thereafter frequently played Solitaire and  
26 FreeCell Solitaire on their mobile devices on an ongoing and continuous basis.

27 143. During the time B.K. and M.K. played Solitaire and FreeCell, one or more of the  
28 SDK partners of MobilityWare had, with the permission of MobilityWare, embedded one or more

1 advertising SDKs which collected, disclosed, or used personal information and persistent  
2 identifiers of B.K. and M.K. Defendants collected B.K.'s or M.K.'s personal information to track,  
3 profile, and target them for commercial gain.

4 144. Plaintiff Komins did not know that MobilityWare had embedded the SDK  
5 Defendants' coding in the Gaming Apps that her children played, and did not know that Defendants  
6 were exfiltrating her children's personal data as they played the Gaming Apps.

7 145. The Defendants never asked Rona Komins for her parental consent—in any form  
8 or at any time—to collect, disclose, or use her children's personal information.

9 146. Defendants' tracking and collection of B.K.'s and M.K.'s personal information  
10 parental consent is highly offensive to Ms. Komins and constitutes an invasion of her children's  
11 privacy and of Plaintiff's right to protect her children from such invasions.

## 12 V. CLASS ALLEGATIONS

13 147. Pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 382 and California Rules of Court,  
14 Rule 3.765, Plaintiff seeks class certification of the following classes:

15 **Parents of California Children Residents Under 13 Years Old:**

16 All parents or legal guardian(s) of children residing in the State of  
17 California who are younger than 13 years of age, or were younger  
18 than the age of 13 when they played the MobilityWare Gaming Apps,  
19 from whom Defendants collected, used, or disclosed personal  
information.

20 **Parents of California Children Residents Under 18 Years Old:**

21 All parents or legal guardian(s) of children residing in the State of  
22 California who are younger than 18 years of age, or were younger  
23 than the age of 18 when they played the MobilityWare Gaming Apps,  
24 from whom Defendants collected, used, or disclosed personal  
information.

25 **California Adult Class:** All persons residing the United States of  
26 America who were older than 18 years of age when they played the  
27 MobilityWare Gaming Apps from whom Defendants collected, used,  
28 or disclosed personal information without disclosures, permissions,  
or consent.

148. Excluded from each Class are the following individuals: officers and directors of

1 MobilityWare and its parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, and any entity in which MobilityWare has a  
2 controlling interest; and all judges assigned to hear any aspect of this litigation, as well as their  
3 immediate family members.

4 149. Plaintiff reserves the right to modify or amend the definitions of each of the  
5 proposed Classes before the Court determines whether certification is appropriate.

6 150. Numerosity. The members of the classes are so numerous that a joinder of all  
7 members is impracticable. While the exact number of class members is unknown to Plaintiff at  
8 this time, download figures indicate that the Gaming Apps have been downloaded millions of  
9 times.

10 151. Typicality. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the class members because,  
11 among other things, Plaintiff sustained similar injuries to that of Class Members as a result of  
12 Defendant's uniform wrongful conduct, and their legal claims all arise from the same events and  
13 wrongful conduct by Defendants.

14 152. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class members.  
15 Plaintiff's interests do not conflict with the interests of the Class Members and Plaintiff has  
16 retained counsel experienced in complex class action cases to prosecute this case on behalf of the  
17 Classes.

18 153. Commonality. Common questions of law and fact exist as to all class members and  
19 predominate over any questions solely affecting individual members of the Classes and Subclasses,  
20 including the following:

- 21 i. Whether Defendants engaged in the activities referenced herein;
- 22 ii. Whether Defendants' acts and practices complained of herein amount to acts of  
23 intrusion upon seclusion under the law of California;
- 24 iii. Whether Defendants' conduct violated Class Members' California constitutional  
25 right to privacy;
- 26 iv. Whether Defendants' conduct violated the Unfair Competition Law;
- 27 v. Whether members of the classes have sustained damages, and, if so, in what  
28 amount; and

1 vi. What is the appropriate injunctive relief to ensure Defendants no longer unlawfully  
2 collect children's personal information to track, profile, and target them over time  
3 and across different websites or online services.

4 154. Ascertainability. Class Members can easily be identified by an examination and  
5 analysis of the business records maintained by MobilityWare, among other records within  
6 MobilityWare's possession, custody, or control. Additionally, further class member data can be  
7 obtained through forensic analyses or through SDK Defendants who may retain data obtained from  
8 the Gaming Apps.

9 155. Predominance. The common issues of law and fact identified above predominate  
10 over any other questions affecting only individual members of the Class. The Class issues fully  
11 predominate over any individual issue because no inquiry into individual conduct is necessary; all  
12 that is required is a narrow focus on Defendants' conduct.

13 156. Superiority. A class action is superior to all other available methods for the fair and  
14 efficient adjudication of this controversy since a joinder of all members is impracticable.  
15 Furthermore, as damages suffered by class members may be relatively small, the expense and  
16 burden of individual litigation make it impossible for class members to individually redress the  
17 wrongs done to them. Individualized litigation also presents a potential for inconsistent or  
18 contradictory judgments, and increases the delay and expense presented by the complex legal and  
19 factual issues of the case to all parties and the court system. By contrast, the class action device  
20 presents far fewer management difficulties and provides the benefits of a single adjudication,  
21 economy of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court.

22 157. Accordingly, this class action is properly brought and should be maintained as a  
23 class action because questions of law or fact common to Class Members predominate over any  
24 questions affecting only individual members, and because a class action is superior to other  
25 available methods for fairly and efficiently adjudicating this controversy.

26 158. This class action is also properly brought and should be maintained as a class action  
27 because Plaintiffs seek injunctive relief and declaratory relief on behalf of the Class Members on  
28 grounds generally applicable to the proposed Classes. Certification is appropriate because

1 Defendants have acted or refused to act in a manner that applies generally to the proposed Classes,  
2 making final declaratory or injunctive relief appropriate.

3 **VI. CAUSES OF ACTION**

4 **A. CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO PRIVACY**

5 **California Constitution, Article I, Section 1**

6 159. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation  
7 contained elsewhere in this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

8 160. Plaintiff Rona Komins, her children B.K. and M.K., and Class Members have  
9 reasonable expectations of privacy in their mobile devices and their online behavior, generally.

10 161. Plaintiff's and Class Members' private affairs include their behavior on their mobile  
11 devices as well as any other behavior that may be monitored by the surreptitious tracking employed  
12 or otherwise enabled by the Gaming Apps.

13 162. The reasonableness of such expectations of privacy is supported by Defendants'  
14 unique position to monitor Plaintiff's and Class Members' behavior through their access to  
15 Plaintiff's and Class Members' private mobile devices. It is further supported by the surreptitious,  
16 highly-technical, and non-intuitive nature of Defendants' tracking.

17 163. Defendants intentionally intruded on and into Plaintiff's and Class Members'  
18 solitude, seclusion, right of privacy, or private affairs by intentionally designing the Gaming Apps  
19 (as well as all SDKs identified in this Complaint) to surreptitiously obtain, improperly gain  
20 knowledge of, review, and/or retain Plaintiff's and Class Members' activities through the  
21 monitoring technologies and activities described herein.

22 164. These intrusions are highly offensive to a reasonable person, because they disclosed  
23 sensitive and confidential information about children, constituting an egregious breach of social  
24 norms. This is evidenced by, inter alia, countless consumer surveys, studies, and op-eds decrying  
25 the online tracking of children, centuries of common law, state and federal statutes and regulations,  
26 legislative commentaries, enforcement actions undertaken by the FTC, industry standards and  
27 guidelines, and scholarly literature on consumers' reasonable expectations.

28 165. Further, the extent of the intrusion cannot be fully known, as the nature of privacy

1 invasion involves sharing Plaintiff’s and Subclass Members’ personal information with potentially  
2 countless third-parties, known and unknown, for undisclosed and potentially unknowable purposes,  
3 in perpetuity. Also supporting the highly offensive nature of Defendants’ conduct is the fact that  
4 Defendants’ principal goal was to surreptitiously monitor Plaintiffs and Class Members—in one  
5 of the most private spaces available to an individual in modern life—and to allow third-parties to  
6 do the same.

7 166. Defendants’ intrusion into the sacred relationship between parent and child and  
8 subsequent commercial exploitation of children’s special vulnerabilities online also contributes to  
9 the highly offensive nature of Defendants’ activities.

10 167. Plaintiff and Class Members were harmed by the intrusion into their private affairs  
11 as detailed throughout this Complaint.

12 168. Defendants’ actions and conduct complained of herein were a substantial factor in  
13 causing the harm suffered by Plaintiff and Class Members.

14 169. As a result of Defendants’ actions, Plaintiff and Subclass Members seek injunctive  
15 relief, in the form of Defendants’ cessation of tracking practices in violation of state law, and  
16 destruction of all personal data obtained in violation of state law.

17 170. As a result of Defendants’ actions, Plaintiff and Subclass Members seek nominal  
18 and punitive damages in an amount to be determined at trial. Plaintiff and Subclass Members seek  
19 punitive damages because Defendants’ actions—which were malicious, oppressive, willful—were  
20 calculated to injure Plaintiff and Class Members and made in conscious disregard of Plaintiff’s  
21 and Class Members’ rights. Punitive damages are warranted to deter Defendants from engaging in  
22 future misconduct.

23 **B. INTRUSION UPON SECLUSION**

24 171. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation  
25 contained elsewhere in this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

26 172. Plaintiff, her children B.K. and M.K., and Class members have reasonable  
27 expectations of privacy in their mobile devices and their online behavior, generally. Plaintiff’s and  
28 Class members’ private affairs include their behavior on their mobile devices as well as any other



1 behavior that may be monitored by the surreptitious tracking employed or otherwise enabled by  
2 the Gaming Apps.

3 173. The reasonableness of such expectations of privacy is supported by MobilityWare's  
4 unique position to monitor Plaintiff's and Class members' behavior through its access to Plaintiff's  
5 and Class members' private mobile devices. It is further supported by the surreptitious and non-  
6 intuitive nature of Defendants' tracking.

7 174. Defendants intentionally intruded on and into Plaintiff's and Class members'  
8 solitude, seclusion, or private affairs by intentionally designing the Gaming Apps to obtain,  
9 improperly gain knowledge of, review, and/or retain Plaintiff's and Class Members' activities  
10 through the monitoring technologies and activities described herein.

11 175. These intrusions are highly offensive to a reasonable person. This is evidenced by,  
12 *inter alia*, Supreme Court precedent (most recently and forcefully articulated in the *Carpenter*  
13 opinion), legislation enacted by Congress, rules promulgated, and enforcement actions undertaken  
14 by the FTC, and countless studies, op-eds, and articles decrying location tracking. Further, the  
15 extent of the intrusion cannot be fully known, as the nature of privacy invasion involves sharing  
16 Plaintiff's and Class Members' personal information with potentially countless third-parties,  
17 known and unknown, for undisclosed and potentially unknowable purposes, in perpetuity. Also  
18 supporting the highly offensive nature of Defendants' conduct is the fact that Defendants' principal  
19 goal was to surreptitiously monitor Plaintiff and Class Members—in one of the most private spaces  
20 available to an individual in modern life—and to allow third-parties to do the same.

21 176. Defendants' intrusion into the sacrosanct relationship between parent and child and  
22 subsequent commercial exploitation of children's special vulnerabilities online also contributes to  
23 the highly offensive nature of Defendants' activities.

24 177. Plaintiff and Class Members were harmed by the intrusion into their private affairs  
25 as detailed throughout this Complaint.

26 178. Defendants' actions and conduct complained of herein were a substantial factor in  
27 causing the harm suffered by Plaintiff and Class Members.

28 179. As a result of Defendants' actions, Plaintiff and Class Members seek injunctive

1 relief, in the form of Defendants’ cessation of tracking practices in violation of state law, and  
2 destruction of all personal data obtained in violation of state law.

3 180. Plaintiff and Class Members also seek nominal and punitive damages in an amount  
4 to be determined at trial. Plaintiff and Class Members seek punitive damages because Defendants’  
5 actions—which were malicious, oppressive, willful—were calculated to injure Plaintiff and made  
6 in conscious disregard of Plaintiff’s rights. Punitive damages are warranted to deter Defendants  
7 from engaging in future misconduct.

8 C. **VIOLATIONS OF THE UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW**

9 **Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.***

10 181. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation  
11 contained elsewhere in this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

12 182. Defendants are subject to California’s Unfair Competition Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof.  
13 Code §§ 17200, *et seq.* The UCL provides, in pertinent part: “Unfair competition shall mean and  
14 include unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business practices...”

15 **“Unfair” Prong**

16 183. The UCL prohibits “unfair competition,” which is broadly defined as including  
17 “any unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business act or practice and unfair, deceptive, untrue or  
18 misleading advertising and any act prohibited by Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 17500) of  
19 Part 3 of Division 7 of the Business and Professions Code.” Bus. & Prof. Code §17200.

20 184. Defendants’ business practices, described herein, violated the “unfair” prong of the  
21 UCL in that their conduct is substantially injurious to consumers, offends public policy, and is  
22 immoral, unethical, oppressive, and unscrupulous, as the gravity of the conduct outweighs any  
23 alleged benefits. Defendants’ tracking, collect, and selling of Gaming App users’ personal  
24 identifying information for advertising purposes is of no benefit to Gaming App users.

25 185. Defendants have made material misrepresentations and omissions, both directly  
26 and indirectly, related to the privacy-invasive and unlawful behaviors and practices detailed herein.

27 186. As such, Defendants have engaged in unfair or deceptive acts in violation of the  
28 UCL.

1 187. Defendants’ unfair acts allege herein deceived and misled California consumers.  
2 Defendants have taken advantage of the lack of knowledge, ability, experience, or capacity of  
3 California consumers to the detriment of those consumers.

4 188. Defendants’ conduct also injures competing app developers, software designers and  
5 website operators that do not engage in the same unfair and unethical behavior.

6 189. Defendants’ violations were, and are, willful, deceptive, unfair, and unconscionable.  
7 Defendants are aware of the violations, but have failed to adequately and affirmatively take steps  
8 to cure the misconduct.

9 **“Fraudulent” Prong**

10 190. Under the “fraudulent” prong, a business practice is prohibited if it is likely to  
11 mislead or deceive a reasonable consumer or, where the business practice is aimed at a particularly  
12 susceptible audience, a reasonable member of that target audience. *See Lavie v. Proctor & Gamble*  
13 *Co.*, 105 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 496, 506-07 (2003).

14 191. The UCL authorizes a civil enforcement action against “[a]ny person who engages,  
15 has engaged, or proposes to engage in unfair competition.” Bus. & Prof. Code §17203. “[P]erson”  
16 includes “natural persons, corporations, firms, partnerships, joint stock companies, associations  
17 and other organizations of persons.” *Id.* §17201.

18 192. MobilityWare intentionally misleads and deceives Gaming App users to believe  
19 MobilityWare adheres to privacy-protected norms and child privacy norms.

20 193. MobilityWare further misleads customers by advertising the Gaming Apps as “E”  
21 for Everyone, or “Ages 4+” when its privacy policy states that the games are not intended for  
22 children under the age of 13.

23 194. When users download and play the Gaming Apps, MobilityWare and its SDK  
24 partners surreptitiously collect and sell the users’ personal identifying information and profile them  
25 for behavioral and contextual targeted advertising.

26 195. Plaintiff and Class Members acted reasonably when they downloaded the Gaming  
27 Apps, which they believed to be fun, free, and kid-friendly games.

28 196. Plaintiff and Class Members lost money or property as a result of Defendants’ UCL

1 violations because (a) they would not have downloaded or played the Gaming Apps absent  
2 Defendants' representations and omission of a warning that their information would be tracked,  
3 collected, and sold for contextual and behavioral advertising.

4 **"Unlawful" Prong**

5 197. Defendants' business practices, described herein, violated the "unlawful" prong of  
6 the UCL by violating California's Constitutional Right to Privacy; Intrusion Upon Seclusion, the  
7 California Online Privacy Protect Act of 2003 (CalOPPA), Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 22575; the  
8 California Consumer Privacy Act (2018) (CCPA), Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.120(c); and the federal  
9 Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), 15 U.S.C. §§ 6501-6506.

10 198. Such conduct is ongoing and continues to date.

11 199. Defendants' conduct further violates other applicable California and Federal  
12 regulations as alleged herein.

13 200. Plaintiff and Class Members are likely to continue to be damaged by Defendants'  
14 deceptive practices, because Defendants continue to omit important app permissions. Thus,  
15 injunctive relief enjoining Defendants' deceptive practices is proper.

16 201. There were reasonably available alternatives to further Defendants' legitimate  
17 business interests, other than the conduct described herein.

18 202. Defendants' practices are therefore unfair, unlawful, and fraudulent under Section  
19 17200 *et. seq.* of the California Civil Code.

20 **D. FRAUD BY OMISSION**

21 **Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1709-1711, *et seq.***

22 203. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation  
23 contained elsewhere in this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

24 204. MobilityWare actively concealed material facts, in whole or in part, with the intent  
25 to induce Plaintiff, her children, and Class Members to download the Gaming Apps. Specifically,  
26 Defendants actively concealed the truth about tracking Gaming App users' online behavior,  
27 collecting personal information and location data, and selling that Personal Data to third parties to  
28 facilitate subsequent tracking, profiling, and targeting.



1 contained elsewhere in this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

2 215. MobilityWare represented that the Gaming Apps were rated “E for Everyone” and  
3 could be played by minors ages “4+”. MobilityWare misrepresented the suitability of the Gaming  
4 Apps for children, as the Gaming Apps collected and exfiltrated children’s Personal Data.

5 216. The misrepresentations were communicated to Plaintiff and the Class Members  
6 through the Gaming App interfaces.

7 217. The misrepresentations concerned material facts that influenced Plaintiff and the  
8 Class Members’ downloading of the Gaming Apps.

9 218. MobilityWare knowingly made the misrepresentations with the intent to induce  
10 Plaintiff and the Class Members to download and play the Gaming Apps.

11 219. At the time MobilityWare made the misrepresentations, MobilityWare knew or  
12 should have known that the misrepresentations were false, or MobilityWare made the  
13 misrepresentations without knowledge of their truth or veracity.

14 220. Plaintiff and the Class Members reasonably, justifiably, and detrimentally relied on  
15 the misrepresentations and, as a proximate result thereof, have and will continue to suffer damages.

16 **F. QUASI-CONTRACT**

17 221. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation  
18 contained elsewhere in this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

19 222. At all times mentioned herein, Plaintiff and Class Members conferred a benefit  
20 upon Defendants in the form of a fee, commission, profit, recurring revenue stream, or other form  
21 of monetary payment, which came from Defendants’ collecting, tracking, and selling of Plaintiff  
22 and Class Members’ personal identifying information.

23 223. Defendants knowingly received, accepted, and retained such fees, commissions,  
24 profits, recurring revenue streams, or other monetary payments and have retained the monies as  
25 profits.

26 224. By collecting, storing, and using Plaintiff’s, her children’s, and Class members’  
27 Personal Data without their permission, Defendants were unjustly enriched at the expense of  
28 Plaintiff and Class members. It would be inequitable, unjust, and unconscionable for Defendants

1 to retain the benefits they obtained from using Plaintiff's and Class members' Personal Data for  
2 advertising purposes.

3 225. Plaintiff seeks disgorgement of all proceeds, profits, benefits, and other  
4 compensation obtained by Defendants from their improper and unlawful use and collection of  
5 Plaintiff's and her children's and the Class members' and their children's Personal Data, as well  
6 as all other appropriate relief against Defendants which the Court deems proper, including  
7 reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of suit pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5.

8 **VII. PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

9 226. WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, individually, on behalf of her children, and all others  
10 similarly situated, requests that the Court:

- 11 A. Certify this case as a class action, appoint Plaintiff as class representative, and  
12 appoint Plaintiff's counsel to represent the Class;  
13 B. Enter judgment against Defendants' for the causes of action asserted herein;  
14 C. Award Plaintiff and Class Members appropriate relief, including actual,  
15 nominal and/or statutory damages and punitive damages, in an amount to be  
16 determined at trial;  
17 D. Award restitution to Plaintiff and Class Members for Defendants' unjust  
18 enrichment;  
19 E. Award equitable, injunctive, and declaratory relief as may be appropriate;  
20 F. Award all costs, including experts' fees, attorneys' fees, and the costs of  
21 prosecuting this action; and  
22 G. Grant such other legal and equitable relief as the Court may deem appropriate.

23 **VIII. DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

24 Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury of all issues so triable.

25 DATED: March 1, 2020

26 Respectfully submitted,

27 

28 Ronald A. Marron

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