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February 11, 2019

Tim Cook
Chief Executive Officer
Apple
One Apple Park Way
Cupertino, CA 95014

Sundar Pichai
Chief Executive Officer
Google
1600 Amphitheatre Parkway
Mountain View, CA 94043

Dear Mr. Cook and Mr. Pichai:

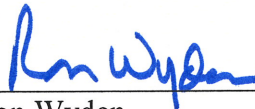
I write to ask that you immediately remove from your app stores the Saudi government's *Absher* app, which enables Saudi men to track and control the movements of Saudi women.

The Saudi Ministry of Interior's National Information Center operates *Absher*, an online e-portal through which Saudi citizens can interact with their government. However, according to media reports, Saudi men can also use *Absher* to surveil and track women under their "guardianship," such as their wives and unmarried daughters. Saudi men can also reportedly use *Absher* to receive real-time text message alerts every time these women enter or leave the country or to prevent these women from leaving the country.

It is hardly news that the Saudi monarchy seeks to restrict and repress Saudi women, but American companies should not enable or facilitate the Saudi government's patriarchy. By permitting the app in your respective stores, your companies are making it easier for Saudi men to control their family members from the convenience of their smartphones and restrict their movement. This flies in the face of the type of society you both claim to support and defend.

To that end, I ask that you take immediate action to prevent your technical infrastructure, including your app stores, from being used by the Saudi government to enable the abhorrent surveillance and control of women. Your employees and your customers expect better, as do millions and millions of Americans who support America's promotion of basic rights and dignity around the world.

Sincerely,



Ron Wyden
United States Senator

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