

SUBJECT: DoH will not improve the ecosystem

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[Comment to editor: Do not publish sender name or email address.]

I am a stakeholder: I'm forced to use your software. There really isn't much else to choose from and you and your mates have colluded, among other things through the "living standard" malarky of html 5, that making a browser myself isn't very doable. It's probably easier to write an OS or a compiler. Yet most of the world's "digitally transformed" communication goes through a browser of some sort. So browsers are required software, and the pickings are slim if you insist on unencumbered, open software, which I do, and not just for my browser.

And I have a few comments.

First off, the "internet villain award nomination" was bare naked blackmail from the brilliant chaps that favour a "good and clean internet", in other words one they censored the crap out of. They already don't just have one, but at least three filtering solutions in place. And they call themselves a modern democracy. Right. And you kow-tow to them. Righty right.

Second, the DoH initiative is a bad solution to a mostly uniquely American problem, that of oligopolistic ISPs fucking over their customers. This is American Hucksterism at its finest. "Hey it's a free market", except it isn't, they've effectively divided the market up between them, and they're assholes about it by meddling in their customers' traffic. Meanwhile they break the "thou shalt not meddle in traffic" rule in spades. But DoH also meddles in my traffic, by giving it to a "trusted third party", that I really cannot trust as they're not my friends, they're yours, maybe.

Third, DoH is a bad solution because it really doesn't solve the underlying problem, it just moves it away from asshole ISPs, to a smaller number of bigger parties that you call friends. So you're setting yourself up as a Hotel California type outfit, that I really would like to check out of.

Fourth, you've been at this game for how many years, and the best you could do is stuff DNS into HTTP, add TLS, and call it good? In fact you added the same mistakes that made TLS such a bear to work with. Well, at least now we know why your software is so bad and crappy: You've let the complexity go over your head, but moreover, you did that right at the start. For now we see you can't even get simple things right.

Fifth, and concluding, I don't think you're doing the world a favour by rolling out DoH. Not because of the non-user non-webserver "stakeholders", but because all those complaining snoops have to do is set up their own DoH resolver annex spying centre, and demand you send all that juicy traffic their way. That way, all your users are even further up shit creek. The atrociously poor DoH design enables this.

The bottom line, apart from this whole thing greatly annoying me for many reasons? It's this: You need to get back to the drawing board.

Cancel the roll-out, drop DoH, get some people in who know what they are doing. Right now, with DoH, we are headed for long-term disaster and poisoning of that "ecosystem" you say you want to improve. DoH is the opposite of a solution and an improvement. It's bad, and it's wrong.