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# In Confidence: When to Protect Secrecy and When to Require Disclosure

*Ronald Goldfarb*

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**Ronald Goldfarb : In Confidence: When to Protect Secrecy and When to Require Disclosure** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised In Confidence: When to Protect Secrecy

and When to Require Disclosure:

The variety and pervasiveness of confidentiality issues today is breathtaking. Not a day passes without a media report on a breach of confidentiality, a claim of attorney-client privilege, a journalist jailed for refusing to reveal a source, a medical or hospital record improperly disclosed, or a major business deal exposed by anonymous sources. In *Confidence* examines confidential issues that arise in various disciplines and relationships and considers which should be protected and which should not. Ronald Goldfarb organizes the book around professionals for whom confidentiality is an issue of weighty importance: government officials, attorneys, medical personnel, psychotherapists, clergy, business people, and journalists. In a chapter devoted to each, and in another on spousal privilege, he lays out specific issues and the laws positions on them. He discusses an array of court cases in which confidentiality issues played an important role and decisions were often surprising and controversial. Goldfarb also looks into the criteria that should be used when determining whether secrets must be revealed. His nuanced analysis reveals how federal government practices and technological capabilities increasingly challenge the boundaries of privacy, and his thoughtful insights open the door to meaningful new debate.

"Goldfarb's discussion is of paramount significance in a democracy where values and rights of privacy have been eroded by federal government practices and the impact of technology on our lives." David Wise, author of *The Google Story*