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NOTES

The Invasion of Privacy—Ohio's New Tort

INTRODUCTION

ANY ATTEMPT to define the relatively new tort of invasion of privacy is burdened at the outset by the embryonic state of the body of law now being formed about it. Essentially it protects the right to live as one chooses as long as one does not infringe upon the rights of others, and to be let alone in so doing. The law, in recognizing the right of privacy, seeks to prevent the unwarranted appropriation or exploitation of one's personality, the publicizing of one's private affairs with which the public has no legitimate concern, and the wrongful intrusion into one's private activities in such a manner as to outrage or cause mental suffering, shame or humiliation to a person of ordinary sensibilities.¹

In an era of unprecedented progress in science and technology such as the twentieth century, the need for privacy is evident. Increasing technological advancement in all areas of communication and transportation makes possible myriad intrusions today, for the radio, television, motion picture and press are ubiquitous. The tort of the invasion of privacy reflects the contemporary struggle between the interest of the public and press in dissemination of news and the interest of the individual in the in-

¹ 138 ALR 32.