

Summary Post

This conversation about Abi's choices has prompted us to think more deeply about what anyone working with data owes the public in terms of honesty, blame, and trust. In my original post, I pointed out the dangers of reporting only the shiny results, whether through cherry-picking or p-hacking, and I cited Babbie (2020) along with the ACM Code of Ethics (2018) to argue for full disclosure. Marwa and Craig picked up that thread, reminding the group that selective reporting can lead to serious legal, social, and career fallout.

Marwa also invoked the Menlo Report and the BCS Code of Conduct, urging technologists to build systems that are hard to game and that genuinely protect the public (Finn and Shilton, 2023; BCS, 2022). Her mention of Corrêa et al. (2023) pointed to a growing worldwide agreement on values like non-maleficence and transparency, a consensus that becomes especially urgent in public health crises.

Craig added a legal angle by citing EU consumer protection rules, showing that these ethical problems cross borders and can land in court (European Commission, 2005). In short, Abi's responsibility is not just an academic worry, but a duty shaped by law, community standards, and basic human trust.

To sum up, every answer points to the same core idea: reporters must work responsibly to safeguard the public and maintain the field's honour. Abi should share her findings honestly, and if the situation calls for it, she can also look into passing the story to a third-party platform or even whistleblowing.

References:

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European Commission (2005) Directive 2005/29/EC. Available at: [https://eur-](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32005L0029)

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