**Professional Practices in IT**

**Activity #1:**

**Answers to the Questions:**

**Q1)**

1. Morally, it's wrong to harshly criticize or accuse based on ethnicity or religion. Treating individuals with respect and fairness, irrespective of their sporting performance, is important. Discrimination or attacks on personal characteristics are morally unacceptable.
2. Ethically, discrimination and prejudice are unjustified. Ethical principles stress fairness, diversity, and individual rights, making discrimination and baseless accusations unethical.
3. Legally, hate speech, false accusations, and discrimination can lead to legal consequences. Many countries, including India, have laws against hate speech, defamation, and incitement of hatred based on protected characteristics.

**Q2: What would you do if you were in this situation and your team would have performed poorly. (5)**

In this situation, I would first take a close look at my own performance and contributions. I'd then engage in an open discussion with my teammates to understand what went wrong collectively. Encouragement and support for one another would be a priority to boost team morale. We would set clear goals for improvement, putting in the necessary effort to address our weaknesses. Throughout this process, it's important to maintain good sportsmanship, avoid blaming anyone, and be open to constructive feedback from coaches and mentors.

**Q3:**

**Is it ethical to cheat in exams? (3)**

No, Cheating in exams is unethical because it breaches ethical principles by demonstrating dishonesty and a lack of integrity within an educational context. While not always illegal, it violates the moral code of academic honesty, as students are expected to uphold these standards in their pursuit of knowledge.

**Is it ethical to make students wear boxes to prevent cheating? (3)**

No, it's not ethical to make students wear boxes to prevent cheating. This action goes against treating students with dignity and fairness, and it can be seen as inhumane and intrusive, causing discomfort and undermining their self-respect.

**If you were the management if this institute, what ethical options would you suggest to prevent cheating in exams? (4)**

As the manager of the institute, in case of cheating prevention, I would do the following:

* Assign trained proctors or invigilators during exams to monitor students and discourage cheating.
* Employ plagiarism detection software and online exam proctoring tools to detect and deter cheating through digital means. This also includes having multiple cameras in the examination hall and preparing team to monitor those cameras on the backend.
* Provide different versions of the exam with shuffled questions to minimize the chances of copying.
* Randomly assign seats to students for each exam to reduce the likelihood of collusion and cheating.

**Q4: Considering the situation of March 2020, when the world was hit by a deadly pandemic of COVID-19, many people in Pakistan did not wear masks and went to public places and gathered around in houses when social distancing was recommended strictly. Do you think this was a right thing to do ethically and morally? Discuss it. (5)**

* From an ethical standpoint, individuals have a moral responsibility to protect not only themselves but also others from harm, especially during a public health crisis. This includes following recommended guidelines and restrictions to mitigate the spread of the virus. Ignoring guidelines on mask-wearing and social distancing during a pandemic can be viewed as ethically questionable, as it potentially endangers the well-being of the community. Failing to take these precautions not only jeopardizes public health but also reflects a lack of consideration for the collective welfare and ethical principles of solidarity and responsibility.
* Morally, people should act in ways that keep themselves and others safe, especially during a pandemic. This also includes following health guidelines to prevent the virus from spreading. Not wearing masks, gathering in large groups, or ignoring social distancing rules can be seen as breaking this moral duty, as it puts vulnerable people, like the elderly and those with health problems, at risk.