Ethics Paper

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Ethics are defined as the rules or standards of behavior that individuals are expected to follow, demonstrating the principles of right and wrong (Flynn, 2018). There are different kinds of ethics for certain fields. Computer ethics uses the “rules or standards of behavior that members of the computer – using community are expected to follow, demonstrating the principles of right and wrong” (Flynn, 2018). The computer ethics have a very similar definition as the definition for ethics. IEEE and the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) created the standard of ethics for the global computing community in 1992 (Flynn, 2018).

IEEE and ACM created eight principles that are considered the computer ethics standard. They go as followed: contribute to society, avoid harm, be trust – worthy, be fair, honor patents, give credit, respect privacy, and honor privacy (Flynn, 2018). When reading about ethics in computing within chapter 11 the authors put it as “the apparent lack of ethics in computing is a significant departure from other professions (Flynn, 2018). I think about everything with computers being high and has no problems but for the authors to say there is a lack of ethics is shocking because they must think something is wrong.

Contribute to society and human well – being is the principle “concerning the quality of life of all people affirms an obligation to protect fundamental human rights and to respect the diversity of all cultures (Flynn, 2018). Computing professionals must attempt to ensure that the products of their efforts will be used in socially reasonable ways (Flynn, 2018). Avoid harm is the principle that “prohibits use of computing technology in ways that result in harm to any of the following: users, public, employees, and employers (Flynn, 2018). This is my favorite principle out of the principles because it protects the internal destruction or modification of files and programs which leads to serious loss of resources expenditure of human resources (Flynn, 2018).

Another important principle is the honor property rights and give proper credit. There is a lot of information online and these two principles help prevent the creator. Honor property rights is “violation of copyright, patents, trade secret, and terms of license agreements is prohibited by law” (Flynn, 2018). Unauthorized duplication of material must not be condoned. Give proper credit is “computing professionals are obligated to protect the integrity of intellectual property. One must not take credit for others’ ideas or work” (Flynn, 2018).

The ethics of computing are put in place so that the community is the best it can and the work we do get the credit we deserve. All the information that is put out to the public is protected by these principles. Without the principle they computer and technology world will be a mess.