Ethical egoism, which can also be stated as egoism, is a form of ethics that is defined as actions that are good for ones self-interest. It is a normative that is shown by “cyber moles” or the laymen term criminal or criminal syndicates. These organized groups are looking for their self-interest because they see crime as a “business”. Having perceiving themselves as a “business” they are doing what they need to do to maximize their profit by stealing intellectual property and personal information. They also display a form of situational ethics as well. Situational ethics is simply defined as “a system of ethics by which acts are judged within their contexts instead of by categorical principles”. These organized crime groups present this form of ethics due to the fact they feel it is morally correct for the actions of what they are doing because it benefits them. These actions become normative and these groups or individuals do this because it makes them happy due to benefiting from stealing information and intellectual property by making money and being able to survive within today’s society.

The for-profit corporations that are mentioned in the article show a form of a Utilitarianism form of ethics. This is a form of ethics that is defined as wanting to maximize happiness with the minimization of pain. Having hundreds of companies participating in a survey they attempt to display themselves as utilitarianism. The corporations as a whole attempt to display themselves in this manner, though the employees are truly egoist. The employees of the for-profit corporations are seen as egoist because they are trying to benefit themselves no matter in any given situation. This also infers that the employees of any given for-profit corporations because in the article it is stated that, “an increasing number of financially challenged employees are using their corporate data access to steal vital information”. This is a question of situational ethics due to the current global economy being distorted. It comes spiraling down to a point that the for-profits own employees are stealing from the company they actually work for to gain a compensation for themselves. Doing these kinds of actions greatly conflicts with both the IEEE and the ACM’s code of ethics.

In order to continue one must know what intellectual property is defined as “property that results from original creative thought, as patents, copyright material, and trademarks.” This solely means whatever someone creates something from his or her own mind is intellectual property. Having stated this whenever a person creates a type of document, for example this paper, would be considered intellectual property. This neglects the medium that it is created on or created with as long as other ideas that are intertwined are cited and created for. As such when a programmer creates a certain program on any given machine that is from their creative mind then the intellectual property belongs to the creator. Though questions arise when a creative mind works for a for-profit corporation such as who does the intellectual property belong to. There is a sense of entitlement for the person who creates the property. This is why people who work for these corporations share their product ideas as long as they receive some sort of compensation while neglecting conflict of interest.