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Ethics Discussion

Case: Snowden release of top secret info about national security

- Programming ethics violated:
 - Public
 - Client and Employer
 - Judgement
 - Management
- Systems affected
 - Public: the average U.S. citizen
 - Employer: U.S. national security
 - Employee: U.S. national security employees tasked with creating the systems used for spying
 - Ethical Standing: Snowden's ethical standing after this action
- Were systems affected negatively or positively?
 - Public: Positively
 - Employer: Negatively
 - Employee: Negatively
 - Ethical Standing: Positively
- Explanation:

Programming ethics violated would be: Public (U.S. government) , Client and Employer (U.S. government) , Judgement (Employees) , Management (Employees). The systems that these ethics violated and affected would be the public which will represent the average U.S. Citizen. The Employer which would be U.S. National Security. The employees at U.S. national security and finally the ethical standing of Edward Snowden after leaking this classified information.

The public system reflecting the average U.S. citizen I would say is affected positively in this situation. The average citizen should have the right to know who's spying on them and why. I'd say that the Employer was affected negatively in this situation due to the fact that not only has it been revealed that they had been up to borderline criminal acts, but they also allowed this information to be leaked by an employee which shows that their security was not what it should have been. The employees were affected negatively in this situation since they also allowed this information to be leaked and I'm sure many of them lost their jobs because of this, not only that but the employees did not follow ethical codes that they should have. An ethical responsibility of a programmer is to know when to say no to a task. Finally, the ethical standing of Snowden was affected positively due to the fact that in his eyes he was doing the right thing and I think the common public would agree, and since that's how ethics are decided I'd say he was affected positively.