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Ethics is an especially important discussion topic in the world of modern day technology. In today's society many different aspects of our lives are accessible through technological systems,and since, by nature, people are in control of those systems it is important to ensure that those in control don't use their power to exploit people. In understanding the ethics around technology, I believe that there are three main aspects to consider, the purpose of ethics, possible ethical situations, and the concept of "virtue of ethics".

I believe that the main purpose of ethics in technology is to protect the general public. As society advances, more and more of our daily lives are being automated and maintained through technology, for example, a recent trend that has taken place is investmenting in cryptocurrencies. A cryptocurrency is a technology that seeks to replace traditional paper money with completely digitized money. By replacing paper money with a crypto-coin variant, our lives are becoming more reliant on technology, and with that, people who truly understand the systems behind cryptocurrency could dedicate themselves to exploiting those that don't understand it. So it is important to maintain a high level of ethicacy among the growing population of engineers to ensure that events that could exploit or take advantage of unknowing persons are minimized.

Something else to consider is that there are numerous types of ethical situations to consider. Within class we discussed an ethical situation where amazon was being asked to release an audio recording within one of their clients Alexas in order to help

with an investigation on a murder. When I first learned about this it made me rethink what ethics in technology truly ment. Prior to reading that article, I had thought that what it meant to be ethical was to maintain high levels of privacy for a user, and not release any data without their consent. But in the case with the Amazon Alexa, the person whose data was at risk could not give consent, and in that case, to me it seems more harmful to the deceased to release the data. So now I believe that what it means to be ethical is to act in accordance to your users expectations.

Continuing on, I would like to now discuss "virtue ethics". Virtue ethics are the properties that make a decision ethical. The virtue ethics that we discussed in class are, honest, integrity, fidelity, charity, responsibility, and self-discipline. In the prior incident discussed with the amazon Alexa, I think the three virtue ethics, integrity, fidelity, and responsibility could be applied in making the decision on this case. In that case, Amazon decided not to release the data to the police and I think that that decision applied two of the three virtue ethics that I just mentioned, while violating the other. I think that amazon's decision to not release the data showed fidelity and responsibility. It showed fidelity, because even after the man died, Amazon continued to keep their promise of respecting that man's data, and in the same vein, it was a responsible decision for that same reason, Amazon was expected to uphold their privacy standards, and they did. However, I believe that Amazon's decision violated the integrity virtue, because I feel the moral decision in this case is to release the data so that others don't have to suffer the same fate as that man. If it is taken (like I believe) that the decision with the most integrity is to release the data, while at the same time the responsible choice is to not release the data, then we can see that there is a clear contradiction

between two ethical choices. I honestly don't think that it is possible to satisfy all ethical virtues in this scenario, and so it is reasonable to assume that this is the case for other ethical decisions.

Overall I believe that ethics is a very important discussion for people pursuing an occupation in technology, and is vitally important for a functioning society. Through seeing, discussing, and understanding these ethical dilemmas, we write the way for a much safer and humane space for everyone. Because without having learned about the possible ethical dangers, we risk endangering and exploiting others, intentional or not.