

Cyber Ethics

Moral Values in Cyber
Space

The Good, the Bad, and the
Electronic

Advice to Freshmen

- Don't LOOK at anything in a Physics lab.
- Don't SMELL anything in a Biology lab.
- Don't TASTE anything in a Chemistry lab.
- Don't TOUCH anything in a medical lab.
- Don't LISTEN to anything in a Philosophy course.
- Don't TRUST anything in a computer lab.

Two Points of View



- There is nothing new or special about ethical issues involving computer technology.
- First Law of Philosophy
- There are new, unique ethical issues that could not have existed without computer technology.
- Second Law of Philosophy



Policy Vacuums

- Computers are logically malleable.
- Typical problems arise in Computer Ethics because there is a policy vacuum about how computer technology should be used.



What Do We Mean by Cyber Ethics?

- Analysis of the nature and social impact of computer technology
- Corresponding formulation and justification of policies for the ethical use of such technology.

Information Gap

- Example: Sub Saharan Africa
- Any third world country



On Line Education

- Cyber Degrees
- Social Acceptance?
- Take the Money, send the diploma, but provide weak or no educational experience



Electronic Voting

- Paper vs. machine vs. computer.
- Convenience and speed.



On Line Pharmacies

- Convenience and price.
- Prescription needed?
- Doctor's role?



Athletic Recruiting

- Numbers of phone calls vs. emails
- Personal promotions both amateur and professional
- Two_way investigations



RFID

- Radio Frequency Identification RFID
- May contain everything about a person
- Saves Lives
- Invades Privacy



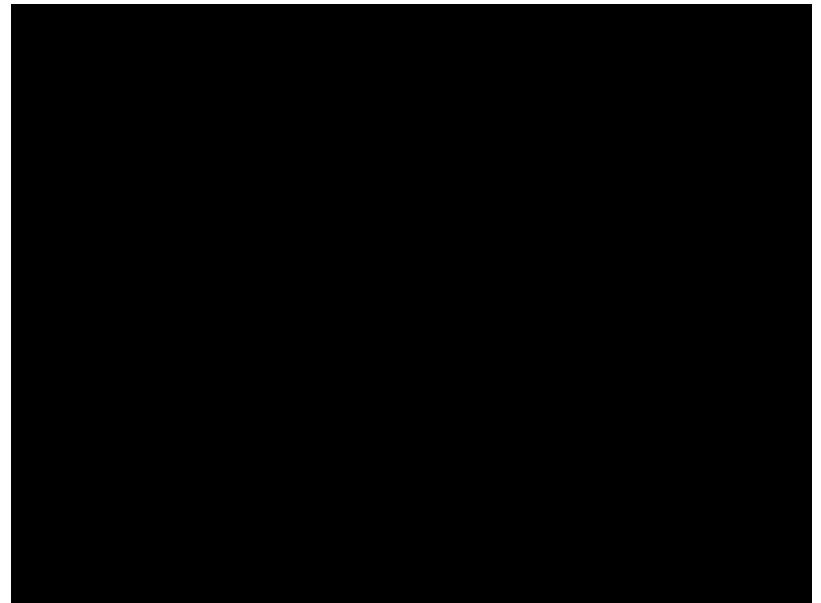
Employee Monitoring

- Email
- Websites
- Monitoring software



Virtual Life

- Gaming
- Create your own identity
- Purchase virtual merchandise
- Hone your skills



Who Are You? Who Am I?

- Anonymity in the virtual world
- How many hours do people spend online?
- Confusion?



Natural World and Cyberspace

- Physical World: DNA, RNA: A, T, G, C
- Computer World: 0, 1
- Natural Ethics
- Cyber Ethics
- Creation?
 - Natural World
 - Virtual World

Controlling Cyberspace

- Relativism need not apply.
- Cyberspace is beyond geographic and political boundaries.
- Do we want to enforce ethical standards on cyberspace?
- Can we?
- We must depend on human integrity.