**COMP 4730 FALL 2019 FINAL PAPER**

Study the 10 case studies posted on Canvas, review the ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct at <https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics>, analyze each case study from the standpoint of topics discussed in this course and in the textbook as well as the ACM Code, then fill the table below for each case study, and submit the ten tables as a single Word or PDF document by the NEW DEADLINE OF **11:59 pm Tuesday December 3**. NO LATE SUBMISSIONS ALLOWED. Grading: 0.2 point per question except for the case study title (which MUST be provided).

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| Title of the Case Study | Case Study Description |
| What is the most important ethical issue in this case? | Google helping China create a search engine that censored users’ queries without letting users know. |
| What is ONE ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct principle (state the principle not just its number) that applies to this case and the ethical issue you identified? | Principle 1.3 Be honest and trustworthy. |
| State one PRO argument concerning the issue | Since there is knowledge that some search results are censored anyway it should be fine to leave out which exact searches are censored. |
| State one CON argument concerning the issue | Since the search engine would not alert users that some results were censored off, this would cause people to believe that they have the all the information. This means it could become easy to spread false information and make it look more authentic as there would be no indication of another side of the story. It also makes it possible to have people be told only a portion of a story and pass it off as the whole story since the rest is hidden without notice. |
| What is your decision or which side (pro or con) would you choose AND why? | I would be on the Con side because I feel that it is unethical to censor information without alerting users. This clearly violates Principle 1.3. While the censors might be known it still does not excuse the users being unaware of it. |

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| Title of the Case Study | Computer Matching |
| What is the most important ethical issue in this case? | Your personal information can be linked together making it possible to find out all about a person using just a single unique identifier. |
| What is ONE ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct principle (state the principle not just its number) that applies to this case and the ethical issue you identified? | 1.6 Respect privacy. |
| State one PRO argument concerning the issue | This is a good thing since it can be used to find people who are avoiding taxes or the draft. |
| State one CON argument concerning the issue | With one unique identifier you can find out too much about a person. |
| What is your decision or which side (pro or con) would you choose AND why? | I am on the con side because it has too much of a potential to destroy your privacy easily. Without the proper protections this could be very dangerous. |

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| Title of the Case Study | CSD |
| What is the most important ethical issue in this case? | Should companies break moral of their home country when working with other countries. |
| What is ONE ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct principle (state the principle not just its number) that applies to this case and the ethical issue you identified? | 3.1 Ensure that the public good is the central concern during all professional computing work. |
| State one PRO argument concerning the issue | By working in these countries, you can try bringing change within them. |
| State one CON argument concerning the issue | Since you are working with these countries like China you would have to censoring search results and even reporting with people were searching up what terms. This who mean restricting user’s privacy as well as making it possible to make users unaware of what is really going on with the censors. |
| What is your decision or which side (pro or con) would you choose AND why? | Here you are actively reducing other’s rights so I will be going with the con side. |

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| Title of the Case Study | The Consequences of Video Game Resell |
| What is the most important ethical issue in this case? | Should users of Steam be able to resell their games to other users. |
| What is ONE ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct principle (state the principle not just its number) that applies to this case and the ethical issue you identified? | 1.5 Respect the work required to produce new ideas, inventions, creative works, and computing artifacts. |
| State one PRO argument concerning the issue | Users will be able sell/trade their digital products that they bought just like they would be able to if they had bought the physical product. |
| State one CON argument concerning the issue | Since users would be reselling the games it could violate the ACM principal as others can now make profits off a resold game or tried to use this to get multiple copies of the game for the price of one. |
| What is your decision or which side (pro or con) would you choose AND why? | I would be on the Pro side. Since once you buy the physical game or any production you are free to do as you please with it. This means you should be able to do the same with any software you downloaded. Since these sites already have measures that allow limited refunds the same process could be used for the reselling / trading of software. Meaning circumventing this would also be a non-factor. |

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| Title of the Case Study | Case Study Description |
| What is the most important ethical issue in this case? | Should third party companies able to freely take and store public user information? |
| What is ONE ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct principle (state the principle not just its number) that applies to this case and the ethical issue you identified? | 1.6 Respect privacy |
| State one PRO argument concerning the issue | Since the data is public for all to see that means the user has already made the decision that the information is free for all to see. Thus, the data can be collected and stored by companies. |
| State one CON argument concerning the issue | When storing this public information all in one place it can be much easier for a program to learn things about a user that they would like to keep private that another user could. This is what breaks the code of ethics. By storing the information, you are making a complete profile that will never forget anything. |
| What is your decision or which side (pro or con) would you choose AND why? | I am on the Con side. This is a violation of privacy because the program will never forget her anything once it is put in the system. If a user had temporarily shared something for a short time period and then removed it if the third party scanned it would be saved forever. Another reason I am against it is because storing all the data in one place to be analyzed together can cause information to be found out about the person. |

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| Title of the Case Study | CONTROL OF PERSONAL INFORMATION ON INTERNET |
| What is the most important ethical issue in this case? | Should companies be able to use able public videos and images to promote their products without permission. |
| What is ONE ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct principle (state the principle not just its number) that applies to this case and the ethical issue you identified? | 1.3 Be honest and trustworthy. |
| State one PRO argument concerning the issue | Since the videos are public that means that they should be free to be use by whomever chooses. |
| State one CON argument concerning the issue | These pictures and videos are being used in a deceiving manor to trick fans into believing that said user is a fan of the product. |
| What is your decision or which side (pro or con) would you choose AND why? | I am on the CON side since this is a clear violation of the code of ethics. While the video is public the problem doe not solely lie in the use of pictures but what they represent. Since the user in this scenario did not endorse the products, using them in their promotional line is clear deceit. |

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| Title of the Case Study | Privacy and Security Concerns with IoT devices |
| What is the most important ethical issue in this case? | Having no option in the terms and agreement to opt-out of storing personal information all conversation for later use. |
| What is ONE ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct principle (state the principle not just its number) that applies to this case and the ethical issue you identified? | 1.6 Respect privacy. |
| State one PRO argument concerning the issue | With this your IoT device can get better at helping you by predicting things to put on shopping lists or even refilling prescriptions. |
| State one CON argument concerning the issue | This can lead to invasive ads that target you based on private things in your life as well as the storage of very private and personal matters. |
| What is your decision or which side (pro or con) would you choose AND why? | I am on the CON side since there should be a way to opt out of a smart device storing your information and still use it. Otherwise this is a violation of the code of ethics. Without a proper way to disable this storage you no longer have the privacy in your own home which is an issue. |

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| Title of the Case Study | Google Censoring Search Results in China |
| What is the most important ethical issue in this case? | Should Google operate in China even if it means that it must bend to Chinese regulations of censorship? |
| What is ONE ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct principle (state the principle not just its number) that applies to this case and the ethical issue you identified? | 1.2 Avoid harm. |
| State one PRO argument concerning the issue | Since China would eventually create or find a way to do this anyway its better that an outside company come in and do it. This is because the outside company could be much more lenient than the Chinese government would be and could cause change from within. |
| State one CON argument concerning the issue | You are actively taking limiting information from the users. |
| What is your decision or which side (pro or con) would you choose AND why? | I am on the CON side because even thought you are trying to push for a good thing bending over to this country still means that you are hurting its citizens. |

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| Title of the Case Study | Case Study Description |
| What is the most important ethical issue in this case? | Should whistleblowing be acceptable even if you have a no whistle blowing clause in your contract? |
| What is ONE ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct principle (state the principle not just its number) that applies to this case and the ethical issue you identified? | 1.3 Be honest and trustworthy. |
| State one PRO argument concerning the issue | By whistleblowing when an entity is in the wrong it can force change on the company since it will be brought to light. Also it could bring change to the whole industry as other companies want to avoid the same fate. |
| State one CON argument concerning the issue | If the company is doing nothing illegal, then the company would then just lose its competitive edge against all its competitors. |
| What is your decision or which side (pro or con) would you choose AND why? | My decision would be that if the whistle blowing is for something illegal then it is acceptable since you are being honest by letting people know what exactly is going on with your system and should not be trying to do anything underhanded. However if it is not illegal then you are breaking principle 1.5 Respect the work required to produce new ideas, inventions, creative works, and computing artifacts. |

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| Title of the Case Study | Case Study Description |
| What is the most important ethical issue in this case? | Is white hat hacking ethical |
| What is ONE ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct principle (state the principle not just its number) that applies to this case and the ethical issue you identified? | 1.2 Avoid harm. |
| State one PRO argument concerning the issue | With white hat hacking any potentially harmful flaws could be found out and documented in such a way that makes it easier to find out how to deal with the issue. It would simulate the event of a real hacking on the system. |
| State one CON argument concerning the issue | If the white hat hack is done without permission like in the case study, it can put many other people in danger breaking one of the code of ethics. |
| What is your decision or which side (pro or con) would you choose AND why? | I would be on the Pro side of the argument if the white hat hacker was allowed to test the because it allows the system to be tested. If any faults are found it can be much easier to fix as well because the hacker can completely document the issues. |