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A code of ethics is a list of guidelines that should be followed when developing a solution to a certain problem. The purpose behind having a code of ethics is to ensure that when coming up with a solution to a problem, the solution does not cause more problems than the one it solves. With each solution to a problem there must be a consideration for the impact on various spectrums.

When I'm faced with an ethical situation, I first consider how each decision I make would impact various groups. After considering my pros and cons to each solution I come up with, I move forward with the option that solves the most issues and reduces the amount of new possible problems. Before moving on with a given decision I step back and observe the impacts on each area of concern from different points of view. I believe it is important to remain as unbiased as possible when weighing the pros and cons of an ethical situation.

The main ethical issue we discussed was about privacy concerning data obtained by an Amazon Echo. The issue came from whether or not Amazon should be required to release the data obtained by an Amazon Echo that may be used to solve a murder case. The murder happened in a room that had an amazon Echo in it and may contain data that will help prove who did it. To our knowledge the data the police were wanting was the audio the Echo records when the trigger word "Alexa" is said.

Most people in our group shared similar opinions. Concerning the crime, we didn't believe that there was any data that would prove useful. We are under the assumption that the Echo only caches at most 30 seconds of Audio which is then deleted if a trigger word was never said. Using this logic, there shouldn't be any useful data. However, if it could help solve a crime then I believe the data should be given. This is where our group diverged. Some of us agreed that when you purchase an Echo you shouldn't be surprised that it is listening to you and the data it hears will be used by Amazon. Other members believe that since you own the Echo, the data it collects should be yours and yours alone.

When considering the virtues of ethics, most will find that these virtues include-- but are not limited to-- integrity, honesty, fidelity, charity, responsibility, self-discipline. When reviewing these six virtues listed, the three that most likely fit this case are integrity, honesty, and responsibility. Integrity is having a strong moral compass. In this case, this is a virtue considered when asking if people's data should be gathered and used. Next, honesty is to be considered when answering how much data is being collected by an Amazon Echo. Finally, responsibility pertains to the public responsibility they may have in order to help solve this murder case. Outside of these three, the last that may be applied is fidelity whereas self-discipline and charity do not really pertain to this case.

Overall a Code of Ethics is hard to definitively define since it varies based on who and what is involved in various cases. However, the IEEE code of ethics does a good job when considering the negative outcomes in comparison to the positive solution.