

1b. Ethics

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Consider a scenario

♦ If you could use a computer to steal enough money so that you and no other member of your family would ever have to work again, and there was no chance that you would get caught, would you do it?

- If you answered yes, then why?
- If you answered no, then why not?
- If there were a chance of being caught, does that change your answer?
- If there were a good chance of being caught, does that change your answer?



Cyberethics example

- If it is on the internet, is it ok to copy it?
- If you find an open port into a machine, it it ok to explore that machine?
- Is it ok to post false information about another individual or group?
- Where is the line between satire and blasphemy and who gets to decide?
- Is it acceptable to write a program that provides guidance to a nuclear device?
- Is it ok to hack if you are hacking for the "good guys?"





From the Computer Ethics Institute

- ♦ Thou shalt not:
- 1. Use a computer to harm other people
- 2. Interfere with other people's computer work
- 3. Snoop around in other people's computer files
- 4. Use a computer to steal
- 5. Use a computer to bear false witness
- 6. Copy or use proprietary software (w/o paying)
- 7. Use other people's computer resources without authorization or proper compensation
- 8. Appropriate other people's intellectual output
- 9. Think about the social consequences of the program you are writing or the system you are designing
- 10. Always use a computer in ways that ensure consideration and respect for fellow humans



ACM Code of Ethics



- These are not new questions. Many of these questions have been around since the beginning of mankind, they are simply now applied to the internet.
- ♦ For folks new to this discussion, a reasonable place to start is the <u>ACM Code of Ethics</u>.
 - ACM stands for Association for Computing Machinery
 - This is the parent professional organization for all of Information Technology (IT)
 - For those that wish to be IT professionals, it is a good idea to know and follow the ACM Code of Ethics but it is not just for IT professionals

ACM Code of Ethics



- ♦ The <u>ACM Code of Ethics</u>* is divided into multiple sections including:
 - General Moral Imperatives
 - More Specific Professional Responsibilities
 - · Organizational Leadership Imperatives
 - · Compliance with the Code
- *http://www.acm.org/about/code-of-ethics

More info

- Copyright and Fair Use
 - http://www.copyright.gov/fls/fl102.html
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fair_use
- Terms and Definitions related to cyber-security and cyberethics
 - http://niccs.us-cert.gov/glossary
 - http://www.sans.org/security-resources/glossary-of-terms/
- Cyberethics
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyberethics
- Recommendations on best practices
 - http://www.microsoft.com/security/online-privacy/cyberethics-practice.aspx