Homework #1: Technology and Ethics

Issued: Thursday, September 15 Due: Thursday, September 29

Purpose

This assignment asks you to think about advances in technology and several ethical theories.

These homework problems are extensions of those our textbook. Read the textbook problem, and then read the clarification and/or elaboration here.

Please:

- proofread for structure, grammar, and spelling
- avoid slang, jargon, and cliches
- double space
- use a serif font (e.g., Roman, not Helvetica)

Chapter 1

Edition 7: question 21, page 42.

Compare free and non-free software. Research this topic on the WWW. You might want to start here:

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~buff/classes/230/pub/ch1/ossnlo.pdf
http://www.gnu.org/
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A good answer will be about one or two pages long.

Edition 7: question 22, page 42.

Analyze software monopolies. Give your personal opinion.

A good answer will be about one or two paragraphs long.

Edition 7: question 27, page 43.

Consider car radar. Give your personal opinion.

A good answer will be about one or two paragraphs long.

Chapter 2

Edition 7: question 32, page 101.

Choose an ethical theory.

Edition 7: question 41, page 101.

Consider copying a copyrighted CD. Make each argument independent; don't mix them. In each argument, be sure to specify which theory you are using.

Edition 7: question 43, page 102.

Is wiretapping moral? Explain your personal opinion, according to one or more ethical theories.

Edition 7: question 44, page 102.

Do you agree with Plato's Glaucon? Either way, explain why.

Edition 7: question 45, page 102.

Do all of them, not just one of them. Are these positive rights? Explain your personal opinion, according to one or more ethical theories.

Edition 7: question 46, page 102.

What is included in the right to life? Explain your personal opinion, according to one or more ethical theories.