

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 5: question 45, page 44.

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

`~buff/classes/230/pub/ch1/ossnlo.pdf`
`http://www.gnu.org/`

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

Edition 5: question 46, page 44.

Analyze software monopolies. Give your personal opinion.

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

Edition 5: question 51, page 45.

Consider car radar. Give your personal opinion.

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

Chapter 2

Edition 5: question 31, page 99.

Choose an ethical theory.

Edition 5: question 40, page 100.

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 5: question 42, page 100.

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

Edition 5: question 43, page 100.

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

Edition 5: question 44, page 101.

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 5: question 45, page 101.

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