

Date: February 26, 2021

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In his pursuit to make the public aware of the extent to which the US government was spying on them, Edward Snowden released quite a bit of classified information to the public. In doing this, he came to several ethical crossroads. Should he go public or remain anonymous. Going public would show the US government that he doesn't fear them, but it could also put his family in danger. Also, him releasing classified information would put US foreign relations in jeopardy.

He would also have to consider what he was doing very carefully, because he would no doubt damage the US's own defense structure and integrity as a nation releasing all of the information he did. This would be something to consider if he would ever hope to return to the US as a free man. Overall, there were several ethical principles violated in Snowden's pursuit of inform the public.