

Define "Ethics"

Study of what constitutes right and wrong
Social consensus on the ordering relationship of choices
Map<Action, Rightness>
The study of what ought to be

Three classes of ethical problems in computing:

1. Should we build what we are building?
 Skeleton Key: (can open all encryption)
 Skynet - homicidal self-aware unstoppable menaces
2. Are we building what we are building responsibly?
 You collect bank accounts and have no security
 Using child labor
 Giving yourself access your employer doesn't want you to have
 Intellectual property
3. Are we responsible citizens in our community?
 Vote & pay taxes

ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct (Association for Computing Machinery)

1. General Moral Imperatives

- 1.1 Contribute to society and human well-being
- 1.2 Avoid harm to others
- 1.4 Be fair and take action not to discriminate
- 1.5 Honor property rights including copyrights and patent
- 1.6 Give proper credit for intellectual property

2.

- 2.5 Give comprehensive and thorough evaluations of computer systems and their impacts, including analysis of possible risks
- 2.6 Honor contracts, agreements, and assigned responsibilities

3. Organizational Leadership Imperatives

- 3.2 Manage personnel and resources to design and build information systems that enhance the quality of working life
- 3.5 Articulate and support policies that protect the dignity of users and others affected by a computing system