

Exercise 4.1 - Systems Theory

Case:

- A retailer selling your personal information to others for profit

Ethical Quandary	Individual systems	Technical systems	Socio-technical systems
Public			x
Client and employer	x		
Confidentiality	x		
Judgment		x	
Management		x	
Profession		x	x

When using others' data for one's own financial gain, the owners of the data should be well informed with a simplistic and non-trivial explanation as to why and how the company is benefiting by selling their info.

Obviously the retailer didn't act consistently with the public interest, didn't act in a manner that is in the best interest of their client, and didn't respect the confidentiality of their clients. From the aspect of the technical system, the retailer didn't maintain integrity in their professional judgement. Their managers and leaders shall promote an ethical approach to the management of their data source. And from the aspect of the socio-technical system they shall advance the integrity and reputation of the profession consistent with the public interest