



Republic of the Philippines  
**CAVITE STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Indang, Cavite

**DCIT 65a – Social and Professional Issues**

**Case Study**  
**Topic: Ethics and the Profession**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Course, Yr. & Sec: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Give your insights and reaction on the 3 case studies listed based on the topic “Ethics and the Profession”, place your answer on the box provided**

**I. Case Study 1**

After discovering that one of her students tweeted foul language about her, a school teacher confronted the teenager during a lesson on social media etiquette. Inquiring why the student would post such hurtful messages that could harm the teacher’s reputation, the student replied that she was upset at the time. The teacher responded that she was very upset by the student’s actions. The teacher demanded a public apology in front of the class, and the student apologized. The teacher later stated that she would not allow young brats to call her those names.

Was the student behavior wrong, and if yes, why? Next, what are the teacher’s goals in this situation? How should the teacher have addressed the misbehavior? Should the teacher have excused the student’s action, or taken a different approach? If the teacher’s actions are wrong, why is that? Is cyberbullying different from face to face bullying, and if yes, how? How should teachers as a profession treat student misbehavior like this?

--



Republic of the Philippines  
**CAVITE STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Indang, Cavite

**DCIT 65a – Social and Professional Issues**

**Case Study**  
**Topic: Ethics and the Profession**

**II. Case Study 2**

Doctors are required to keep the information shared by patients confidential. A doctor treating an HIV-positive patient was told by the patient that he had unprotected intercourse with several partners and did not tell the partners about his condition. The patient told the doctor that no one would want to be his partner if he disclosed his condition. The doctor explained the risk he exposed his partners to, and the patient agreed not to do this again.

Start by considering the patient's actions; he is not a professional but his actions have raised issues for the doctor. Has the patient acted wrongfully, and if yes, what exactly is wrongful? Now consider the professional, the doctor. Assuming the doctor knows the identity of the partners because the patient told him, should the doctor take any action toward the partners? If yes, what exactly should he or she do? What if the patient objects and wants to keep the information confidential? Do the patient's wrongful actions mean that the patient should no longer have a claim to confidentiality? If the doctor contacts the partners over the patient's objections, should the patient complain about the doctor widely online, so other patients know what the doctor might do?



Republic of the Philippines  
**CAVITE STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Indang, Cavite

**DCIT 65a – Social and Professional Issues**

**Case Study**  
**Topic: Ethics and the Profession**

**III. Case Study 3**

A woman is sexually harassed by a top-level senior executive in a large company. She sues the company, and during settlement discussions she is offered an extremely large monetary settlement. In the agreement, the woman is required to confirm that the executive did nothing wrong, and after the agreement is signed the woman is prohibited from discussing anything about the incident publicly. Before the date scheduled to sign the settlement agreement, the woman's lawyer mentions that she has heard the executive has done this before, and the settlement amount is very large because the company probably had a legal obligation to dismiss the executive previously. The company however wants to keep the executive because he is a big money maker for the company.

Some of the issues raised by this case study include initial issues of unethical and unlawful conduct, by the executive and the company; whether the company should allow the executive to continue working because of the revenue he generates, in view of his propensity to harm co-workers, and whether this action is ethical or reflects integrity; whether the company should require the woman to state that the executive did nothing wrong as part of the settlement agreement; whether the woman should agree to this settlement in view of the harm future employees are being exposed to; and whether the woman is prioritizing justice for herself over harm to future employees in an acceptable way. What are the issues of integrity, ethics and law posed in the case study? What options does the woman have, and what should she do and why?