Ethics Paper

Within each career, there can be ethical issues that can take place within said field. When it comes to a career like cybersecurity, that fact is magnified as there is a plethora of ethical issues that people must go through and understand. In order to be in line with the multiple codes of ethics and to ensure a healthy and safe environment on the internet one must discuss what some of the biggest ethical challenges in the world of cybersecurity are, how to overcome these massive ethical challenges, and how guidelines created by the codes of ethics are supported by the bible.

Within each field, there is an assortment of ethical issues one may have to go through and understand in order to be well-adapted to said field. When it comes to a field like cybersecurity, there are five major ethical dilemmas one may face (Dhirani). These five major ethical dilemmas include data privacy, risk associated with Artificial Intelligence, developing sustainable environments, health implications due to technological use, and infodemic and data weaponization issues (Dhirani). With data privacy, the ethical dilemmas mainly come from ensuring one’s privacy is respected and that users are informed of what data is being collected. The issues for data privacy may occur when algorithms have data privacy controls that intrude on this process (Dhirani). This is where risk with Artificial intelligence comes into play, as AI may sometimes lack the data privacy controls needed to protect one’s privacy, or one’s life, as AI cars are becoming utilized more, the ethics of a human must be integrated so that the AI goes for the option with the least number of casualties (Dhirani). Developing sustainable environment ethical dilemmas come from the issue that only industries with core competencies are able to regulate ethical processes within their environment, which opens up manufacturing environment regulatory and ethical issues (Dhirani). Health-implicated ethical dilemmas come from issues where lives are on the line, and according to utilitarian ethical theory, something may be right; however, it may violate General Data Protection Regulations (Dhirani). Infodemic and data weaponization issues come from being careful of what data you collect, as black hat hackers may use that data for malicious intent (Dhirani).

Cybersecurity’s five ethical dilemmas can seem extremely difficult to navigate, especially as the field is constantly growing and changing; however, there are some things that can be done in order to prepare oneself for overcoming those ethical dilemmas. One solution is ensuring users have control over their data and privacy and only storing that data for a specific time-period (Dhirani). Giving users complete control over what data they may share can help ensure privacy is maintained (Dhirani). This solution also goes hand in hand with putting systems in place to protect their information, as this ensures that their privacy is both respected, and protected, and helps prevent data weaponization (Dhirani). This also must be the case with Artificial Intelligence. As AI develops and is able to do more things, systems must be integrated to ensure they do not overstep and end up being uncompliant with ethical requirements such as data privacy (Dhirani). A solution regarding health protection could be putting disclaimers for anyone who could be affected negatively by the technological systems as a form of transparency, or perhaps doing one’s best to ensure that the least number of people possible are negatively affected in dire situations involving technology and health (Dihrani). One of the best ways to ensure one is prepared to overcome ethical dilemmas is to follow the multiple cybersecurity-related codes of ethics.

When it comes to ensuring the safety of the cyber world and maintaining ethics in a field such as cybersecurity, there are multiple major guidelines employed in order to help elaborate on the ethics needed in such a field. Two of these ethical guidelines are called the ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct and the IEEE Code of Ethics. The ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct states that professionals in a cyber field should contribute to society, be honest, avoid harm, respect new ideas, be fair, respect privacy, honor confidentiality, maintain leadership principles, maintain professional responsibilities, and be compliant with the code (ACM). The IEEE Code of Ethics is utilized to maintain high ethical and professional conduct by ensuring professionals treat people fairly, have high standards of integrity, ethical conduct, responsible behavior, and help ensure the code is upheld (IEEE). These ethical guidelines draw some parallels with the statements produced in the bible. For example, in the IEEE Code of Ethics it states that one should seek, accept, and offer honest criticism and to be honest and realistic in stating claims (IEEE). This guideline is similar to Ephesians 4:29 in the bible, where it states to “not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs” as it bolsters the idea of offering honest criticism that can help bolster one’s ability to complete a task instead of stating unreasonable claims (Ephesians 4:29 NIV Bible). A parallel for the ACM Code of Ethics would be that it states to contribute to society and to human well-being (ACM). This guideline is similar to Luke 6:45 in the bible, where it states “A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart” as it bolsters the idea of doing good for the world so that society as a whole can produce good instead of evil (Luke 6:45 NIV Bible).

In conclusion, there are a plethora of ethical issues that can take place throughout one’s career. With cybersecurity in particular, those ethical issues can have extremely potent and long-lasting effects on the world. These issues and how to overcome them are explained by discussing what some of the biggest ethical challenges in the world of cybersecurity are, how to overcome these massive ethical challenges, and how guidelines created by multiple codes of ethics are bolstered by the bible.

Works Cited

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