
SWEN90016 Assignment 1



Figure 1. The Ethics image from Lecture 9

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Ethics Q

Although the aim of Tianyi's organization was to help new immigrants and refugees, Joe's actions still caused a breach of ethics due to the following two reasons.

1) Based on the ACS Code of Ethics, the Honesty (Code 1.2.3) is breached. Honesty (Code 1.2.3) demands that the public trust in the profession or the specific trust of your stakeholders should not be breached [1]. Joe breached Trisha's trust by accessing the email addresses of her customers to achieve his own purpose. Although Joe's purpose is to help new immigrants and refugees, it still breached the ethics to use the data without getting permission from Trisha and her customers. Furthermore, Honesty (Code 1.2.3) demands that enhancing your own reputation at the expense of another person's reputation" should not be allowed [1]. After Trisha's customers' got the email from 'Welcome to Oz', it was likely that their trust in Trisha would decrease. Joe's actions breached the trust of Trisha and her customers, which caused a breach of ethics.

2) Based on the IEEE guidelines on ethics, Principle 2 (CLIENT AND EMPLOYER) is breached. Principle 2.03 demands that using the property of a client or employer should be suitably authorized and get the client's or employer's knowledge and permission [2]. However, Joe did not inform and get permission from Trisha and her customers but still used the data of Trisha's customers, which obviously breached Principle 2.03. Although Joe used the data to help new immigrants and refugees, his actions might cause damage to the interests of Trisha and her customers. For example, Joe's actions might make Trisha's customers feel offended. Personal information such as email addresses should not be used without the consent of the owner of the information. 🚫

References (IEEE)

- [1] "ACS Code of Ethics", *Acs.org.au*, 2021. [Online]. Available: <https://www.acs.org.au/content/dam/acs/acs-documents/Code-of-Ethics.pdf>. [Accessed: 22-Oct- 2021].
- [2] "Software Engineering Code - ACM Ethics", *ACM Ethics - The Official Site of the Association for Computing Machinery's Committee on Professional Ethics*, 2021. [Online]. Available: <https://ethics.acm.org/code-of-ethics/software-engineering-code/>. [Accessed: 22-Oct- 2021].