Intellectual property issues began to crop up more and more as we delve deeper into our project. The nature of our project being a location based Android app has us borrowing a lot of work from others in the form of API's and open source projects. It will be important as third party functionality is added to the project that we follow any requirements that come along with their licensing. Additionally, though not strictly a legal issue, it is important to us that our application does not come off as a copy of other applications that use Google location and map services like Google Latitude. This will include paying extra attention to similar or competing applications to make sure this project is offering something distinct.

Since a lot of the work done by our app will be done on the back end, where the user will not be able to see it, which brings into question a lot of the boundaries that we may overstep ethically while making this app. A big ethical issue that comes up is privacy as it relations to location based services. Google already provides a location service that periodically calculates a devices location, and Android (6+) requires any app that tries to use this service to get permission from the user before hand (at installation), however, our application will be saving and sharing locations between phones. This ability to let others see your location is a central moral question. Throughout development we plan to answer this by implementing a design that balances simplicity with ensuring the user always has control over what is happening with her location. We will probably have to implement settings that the user can control that will let them know exactly how freely we will be using their location (for example let them be able to toggle who they are visible to and such). Since our backend will include both locations and account information it is additionally important that we not only make sure the user has control of their privacy but also that we securely store this sensitive information from malicious actions