North Metropolitan
GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
TAFE WA

ICTICT451 – Comply with IP, Ethics and Privacy in an ICT environment

Week 3 – Ethical dilemma in the technological context

Our Values: Respect, Integrity, Student-centred, Accountability, Innovation, Professionalism

Acknowledgement of Country (Joondalup campus)

North Metropolitan TAFE recognises Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People's unique cultural and spiritual relationships to the land, waters and seas and their rich contribution to our society. We acknowledge the Noongar People, the traditional custodians of the lands on which our campuses are located, and pay our respects to ancestors and Elders, past and present.

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Welcome

- Welcome to Week 3: Ethical Dilemmas
  - Last week recap
  - This week: Ethical dilemma and its application to technology
    - Have a brief activity on this
  - Reflect & Reinforce
    - Add to the Discussion Thread in Bb

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Before we start…

- Review the Case Study every week
  - Get into groups… (self enrolment)

- Discussion Board now available on home page

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Recap Week2: Ethics and ICT responsibilities

- Last week we defined some basic concepts in ethics
- Looked at the varying types of 'Alternate Views' of ethical conduct.
- Some roles you may carry out during your career
  - IT Support
  - Programmer
  - Database Administrator
  - Network or System Administrator
  - … etc.
- These roles may require you to have enhanced access to systems, data… what does this mean (e.g. protection of systems, data, clients' details, staff details, etc?)

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Ethics in ICT

- Being a Professional is an absolute commitment.

- As an ICT professional, you may find yourself in some tricky situations…

- When such times occur… remember your organisation's values and/or your own personal values… These will help you ☺

- Always be formal and consistent… even to the boss…

- … and sometimes there will be times where no answer seems to be the right one…

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Ethics in ICT

- Rely on PROCESS

- Record your actions

- Writing down commits the requestor ☺
  - Even the CEO…

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Ethical Dilemma

- Remember: *Ethics* are the requirements demanded upon us from some external agency that pull on our *Morals* (our innate sense of right and wrong).

- It's easy when things are either right or wrong…

- What happens when things get confusing?

- Let's look at a famous ethical dilemma from the 1960s/70s still referred to today and discuss

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Ethical Dilemma: The Transplant Surgeon Problem

Video length:
1m38s

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Source: Open University, UK

Observations and discussion

- The Transplant Surgeon Problem - Criteria:
  - You are the surgeon
  - Your aim is to save lives
  - You have a choice to make
- What would you do? (… some YES/NO questions for our class activity)
  - Do nothing?
  - Kill the healthy patient to save 5 people?
  - Consider: What if the single healthy patient was a loved one?

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Modern applications featuring ethical dilemmas

- This thought experiment discusses two competing philosophies:
  - Consequentialism
  - Deontology
- Often referred to help tackle other dilemma
  - Fluoridation of public water supply
  - Compulsory vaccinations
  - Self Driving vehicles (… and the countries that use them)
- The latter being directly relevant to our course…

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Modern applications featuring ethical dilemmas

- When it comes to driverless cars… there is still much to think about.
  - Some countries have different cultures
  - Some companies have different values (e.g. Volvo)
  - Against some set of criteria ALREADY programmed into the vehicle by… AN ICT DEVELOPER?
  - Who should be programming driverless vehicles?

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Ethical Dilemma: The Transplant Surgeon Problem and driverless cars

Video length: 5m07s

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Source: BBC (UK)

Reflect & Reinforce

- Sometime there are challenges which do not have an absolute outcome
- At times our decision making can depend on many factors
  - Personal values (e.g. morals or religious teachings)
  - Organisational culture (e.g. managing ethical behaviour)
  - Societal expectations (e.g. legislation, social norms, etc.)
- Our decisions can be made more consistent through use of some values-based system (e.g. student code of conduct, policies, etc.)
- Or, sometimes our decision alter based on the particular situation or information (or lack of) we have at hand.

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Activity

- Usually in a class we would discuss this in groups.

- For now, let's use the Discussion Thread in Bb to discuss the virtue of having self-driving cars in society.

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Reflect & Reinforce

- Please contribute to the Discussion Thread in Learning Materials for Week3, and answer my question to stimulate debate

- When you are ready, try Quiz for Week3

- If you have any questions please drop me an email

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That's it for this week!

Next week we begin Module 2: Skills Development.
This is where we look at some of the essential skills you may need to formulate argument, critically assess and research from authentic sources (… finding truth) ☺

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