

# Ethics Document

A TICT BASED DOCUMENTATION

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## What is exactly the problem? Is it really a problem? Are you sure?

WOA was designed to be a workplace organizational tool for small to medium businesses. This means that the application was designed to cover most of the functionality offered by similar tools on the market but with its own twist to it. Any workplace can benefit from higher levels of organization and therefore this application would technically solve a problem, however not a “problem” as in the word’s every day meaning but instead more of a necessity.

## In which way can the technology be used to break the law or avoid the consequences of breaking the law?

The technology can hardly be used to break the law outside of the risk of identity theft inside the workplace in case anything goes wrong with the security of the application. However, even in that case the impact would be pretty small as the application is meant to contribute to the collaboration between coworkers and not much else. The data that this application is storing cannot be used to a great extent in the outside world.

## How is the identity of the (intended) users affected by the technology?

This technology is meant to help employees communicate at the workplace. It does not stigmatize anyone by its design although it can be used in that way by its users if that is their goal. Furthermore, it doesn’t try to impose any cultural, political or faith based arguments and norms.

## Who are the main users/target groups/stakeholders for this technology? Think about the intended context by answering these questions.

The most obvious stakeholder of this application are the users or the employees and employers that want to use this technology. They are also the ones who are directly affected by any changes or new features and capabilities that the application offers as well as any vulnerabilities that it might have.

## Are you familiar with the fundamental shortcomings and pitfalls of data and do you take this sufficiently into account in the technology?

The WOA application is built with scalability in mind and therefore follows the microservices design architecture. This allows for data to be redistributed between the different microservices and at the same time isolated to only being accessible to them. The WOA application uses separate databases for each microservice which takes care of the isolation. Furthermore the user is always completely free to delete their account from the platform which also deletes all their data and posts.

## Does this technology have a built-in bias?

The application in question is built by one person only and therefore it is only affected by their own personal biases. This also means that in terms of diversity of the people responsible for its design it is fairly lacking. A good idea for the future would be to user test the application in order to determine any potential improvements that can be made to accommodate all types of users.

## Is it explained to the users/stakeholders how the technology works and how the business model works?

Given that the technology is openly accessible as a web application and is similar in terms of design to other technologies of its type. A typical user of this type of technology would have no problem navigating around it.

## In what way is the direct and indirect energy use of this technology taken into account?

The technology is made scalable by its own separate parts and therefore very energy efficient. It requires little in order to operate and does not energy heavy operations. Therefore, the application is not a burden on society and its participants.

## What could possibly happen with this technology in the future

If the technology gains in popularity it could become one of the best tools for workplace organization on the market. If that happens then that would mean that the application is very efficient in its design. If almost everybody uses it will make most workplaces operate in the same way which is both a positive and a negative.