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DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER STUDIES

DCIT 65: Social and Professional Issues
Activity # 4
1ˢᵗ SEMESTER A.Y. 2025-2026

ACTIVITY #4: Real-Life Applications of Ethics

Part A: Case Reflection (20 pts)

Scenario:

You are a network administrator in a company. You discover that some employees are visiting harmful websites during work hours, which risks exposing the company to malware attacks. Your manager tells you to "just ignore it" to avoid upsetting the staff.

Guide Questions:

Analyze the case and answer the following:

1. What is the main ethical problem in this situation?
2. Which IT Code of Ethics principle is being challenged? (e.g., avoiding harm, integrity, responsibility)
3. If you use an ethical decision-making framework (e.g., Utilitarian, Rights, Justice, Virtue), what would be the best decision?
4. What would YOU personally do, and why?

Answer:

The main ethical problem is that employees are visiting harmful websites, but the manager wants to ignore it, risking company security. The IT Code of Ethics principle being challenged is responsibility and avoiding harm, since it is the administrator's duty to protect the network from threats.

Using the Utilitarian framework, the best decision is to act in a way that benefits everyone—by blocking harmful sites or warning employees to prevent damage. If I were in this situation, I would explain the risks to my manager and, if needed, report the issue to higher management because protecting the company's data is more important than avoiding conflict.

Part B: Personal Application (10 pts)

Think of a real-life situation (from your school, internship, or personal tech use) where you had to make a decision involving honesty, fairness, or responsibility.

- Briefly describe the situation.
- Explain how you decided what to do.
- If you had used a decision-making framework, would your choice be the same or different?

Answer:

In school, I once saw a classmate downloading pirated software on a shared computer, which could cause security problems. I calmly talked to them about the risks, and they deleted it. I chose this because it was honest, fair, and responsible. Even using an ethical framework like **Virtue ethics**, I would still make the same choice since it shows integrity and care for others.

RUBRICS FOR GRADING

Part A: Category	Description	Grade
Identification of Ethical Issues (5 pts)	Clearly identifies the ethical dilemmas in all scenarios with accurate understanding of the situation.	
Application of Ethical Frameworks (5 pts)	Correctly applies ethical theories/frameworks (utilitarianism, rights-based, justice, virtue) with logical reasoning.	
Justification of Decision (5 pts)	Provides strong and well-supported justification for the chosen action; connects reasoning to professional codes of ethics.	
Reflection and Professional Insight (5 pts)	Reflection is clear, insightful, and relates learning to IT practice and personal responsibility.	
	Total Grade	

Part B: Category	Grade
Clear description of real-life situation (5 pts)	
Reflection and connection to lesson (5 pts)	
Total Grade	

Submission Format:

- Filename: [LastName]_[FirstName]_Week3EthicsActivity
    - (Example: DelaCruz_Juan_Activity2EthicsActivity)
- Submit in Google **Docs or PDF** via Google Classroom