**AUSTRALIAN COMPUTER SOCIETY CODE OF ETHICS – CASE STUDIES**

**Jean the Programmer**

Jean, a statistical database programmer, is trying to write a large statistical program needed by her company. Programmers in this company are encouraged to write about their work and to publish their algorithms in professional journals. After months of tedious programming, Jean has found herself stuck on several parts of the program. Her manager, not recognising the complexity of the problem, wants the job completed within the next few days. Not knowing how to solve the problems, Jean remembers that a co-worker had given her source listings from his current work and from an early version of a commercial software package developed at another company. On studying these programs, she sees two areas of code which could be directly incorporated into her own program. She uses segments of code from both her coworker and the commercial software, but does not tell anyone or mention it in the documentation. She completes the project and turns it in a day ahead of time.

Source

http://www.acs.org.au/publication/docs/ACS\_CaseStudiesFinal.pdf and Burmeister, O.K, (2000), *Applying the ACS Code of Ethics,* Journal of Research and Practice in Information Technology, Vol. 32, No. 2, May

**QUESTIONS**.

1. What would you have done?

2. How can the ACS code of ethics guide you?