

Edward Snowden's leaks were done with the purpose of informing the American Public of what Snowden believed to be unethical and potentially illegal behavior on behalf of the intelligence community. The obvious ethical consequence of this action, however, is that the same information that is intended to inform and promote change to improve the system may just as easily be used to attack the system and undermine its vital purposes.

As noted in the spreadsheet, this attacks the interconnections and relationships (with foreign entities as well as the public), non-linear relationships such as that with the voting public, dynamic behavior of the intelligence community in basing their activities on the knowledge of others. It confronts the ideal that this system is important, while acknowledging both that the system causes behavior and that the system structure generates behavior. Snowden specifically targeted the culture inside NSA, and to this day advocates for structural transparency and the creation of legal processes for whistleblowers. These leaks obviously lead to delays and overall reduced effectiveness of the system's activities.

For my part, though certainly imperfect, this transgression served far more benefit than harm. Just as Augur gives us insight into project health, this gave the public an alarming warning of urgent problems in a system in which we all share vested interest.