

Exercise 4.1 – Systems Theory

Edward Snowden's release of Top Secret information about National Security Administration security and surveillance practices.

Ethical Quandry	National Security	International Government Relations	Law Making/Regulations	Global Tech Organizations
Privacy	X	X	X	X
Trust	X	X	X	X
Censorship	X	X	X	X
Consent	X		X	

I was a little uncertain when it came to defining an ethical quandry for this scenario. I picked these keywords as they can relate to most areas of ethical interest when analyzing an ethical dilemma such as Snowden's. I chose privacy and trust as those two were massive talking points in this situation. The state and international fallout when it came to privacy and trust was so massive, some systems are still seeing repercussions from it today. I also wanted to focus on censorship and consent because as more people really understood what this leak entailed. People and organizations started to question their own values, and the emotions they feel over how their data is being handled.

For the individual and socio-technical systems affected, I decided to focus on areas that saw the most publicity and question about how their going to move forward. Obviously National Security is the most notable one as they started this whole thing and received the most backlash. This backlash then goes onto affect Internal Government Relations they've built up due to the questions of trust and privacy, but also how this certain scenario could affect them in the people's eye if something similar were to happen to them. This fallout of national security then affects law making and regulations moving forward, as questions begin to arise on how we could regulate this in an ethical manner. Finally, Global Tech Organizations kind of sit in this grey area, where questions begin to arise about how user data is handled and how its ethically comparable to the fallout of Snowden's leak.