

# Applying ethical theory

*by* Arun Kumar Kethavath

---

**Submission date:** 19-May-2019 11:45PM (UTC+1000)

**Submission ID:** 1132746454

**File name:** 11693655\_Ass4.docx (48.56K)

**Word count:** 1288

**Character count:** 7274

## APPLYING ETHICAL THEORIES

<sup>2</sup>  
Applying Ethical Theory

### **5 active mobile threats spoofing enterprise apps**

STUDENT ID: 11693655

STUDENT NAME: Kethavath Arun Kumar

SUBJECT NAME: Topics in Information Technology Ethics(ITC506)

## Introduction

Enterprise workers utilize mobile applications to get their daily activities done. But when malignant actors begin personating those applications, it becomes challenging to the IT sector. Recently, five malware families have been researched satirizing real initiative apps that entice people to download their malicious software. According to the mobile code data set, these active malicious software families usually impersonate initiative application by removing the legal application and package name. The following are five different impersonating apps with perspective to different ethical theories.

**Utilitarianism theory:** it is a group of ethical theories based on consequences that enhance activities that increases happiness for many people (Mill, 2016). It states that, utility is a feature in an object that produces benefits, happiness, advantages and pleasure. It is also significant in prevention of evil, mischief, pain, harm and unhappiness to the interested parties considered. It is a form of consequentialism that outlines that the consequences of any act are the only accepted range of any right and detrimental activity. Shuanet instinctively breaks into a system and access the device, establishes itself on the system dismemberment and finally it also install other applications (Mansfield-Devine, 2012). The applications that are installed maybe harmful or gentle, forced to the device as part of the plan to acquire more downloads. Intrusive and aggressive advertising maybe pushed by Shuanet to the gadget. Devices that are rooted are in a transformed security state. Occasionally people will rummage a device to standardize the specification but they may not have the idea of proper security configuration and this may hinder them from receiving frequent software information that is updated. It is difficult to remove Shuanet malware since it is self-installed in the system dismemberment.

**Virtue ethics theory:** this is a wide term for different theories that stresses the duties of features and virtue in virtuous philosophy instead of doing a person's role or acting so as to portray a good result (Snow, 2010). Most of these theories copy their aspiration from the Aristotle who confirmed that the virtuous people portray character traits that are ideal in nature. These characters are derived from nature but they have to be nurtured well although once they have been established they

### APPLYING ETHICAL THEORIES

become consistent. Contrary to the other distinct theories, virtue ethic theory does not basically aim on identifying universal principles that are applicable in any ethical circumstance. Contrary to this theory, unsafe control malware can steal sensitive information to the enterprise. Unsafe control malware can also access information and avail it to a third party server (Pereira, 2014). It also has the capability to accumulate the list of the contacts and send messages to specific phone numbers given by the CNC servers.

**Deontology ethical theory:** is normative on the basis that the virtuousness of an act is based on whether the action is correct or wrong under a sequence of regulations and not on the consequence of that particular action (Yoon, 2011). It is obligation-based ethics since people are bound to their duties by the rules and regulations. Consequentialism, pragmatic and virtue ethics are contrasted to deontological ethics. In this theory actions taken are more crucial than the consequences. This framework relies on predetermined sets of policies, rules and regulations for the appropriate functioning of systems in the ecosystem. It includes a checklist which comprises of the policies to be pursued and the tasks are considered ethical if and only if the checklist is finalized. It is very easy to perceive and implement. Very little time is used to determine between right or wrong which makes it ignore the impacts of the choices made. Ooqqxx is a powerful unwanted application that is harmless but it is usually not acceptable to the system (Provos et al, 2007). Ooqqxx application monitors and captures the behavior of the user and contains a network for advertising that push ads to the user's device notification bar, displays shortcuts on the device home screen, create pop adverts and facilitates download of large files without permission. It is not clear that Ooqqxx displays these adverts. If a gadget that workers use to perform their tasks misbehaves and alters their activities, the worker is obliged to signal and send a message to the helpdesk of the Company's IT faculty so as the problem can be solved within the shortest time possible. Just like the way other unacceptable applications gain access to vulnerable machines, Ooqqxx also gains entry to vulnerable gadgets via consumer's download. It may also gain access to the user's computer in ways such as outside media like the DVDs, pen drive and memory cards that are already infected, gratis downloads availed by Torrent and malignant websites, during installation process of another software, email attachments that are undesired, graphical enhancing programs

#### APPLYING ETHICAL THEORIES

such as desktops background and themes, mouse pointer icons, smileys and emoticons (Xenakis et al, 2016).

**Contract theory:** is a research on how organization and people implement lawful agreements in circumstances with undecided conditions, exact information and unknown factors (Abdallah et al, 2013). This theory is applicable to both different party discussions between the most important and other agents and agreements formed by a sole individual or company to explicitly state the details of multi-party convention, such as workers contracts. PJApps gathers and discloses the victim's contact, the unique identifier of the mobile phone commonly known as IMEI and the location of the gadget (Töyssy, 2006). PJApps may emit some messages to other superior SMS contacts in order to acquire money which is illegal. It also able to download other apps to the mobile phone. It is very risky since it uses its functionality for monetary gain from users but its technique is worrying. The menace responsible for obtaining information from different location also raises a great concern especially in executive devices which could result in revealing of important and confidential business plan's information. Downloading other applications and installing them to a gadget also makes the device to be more vulnerable to other types of malignant software. PJApps spoofs applications such as cam scanner image credit lookout (Zonouz, 2014).

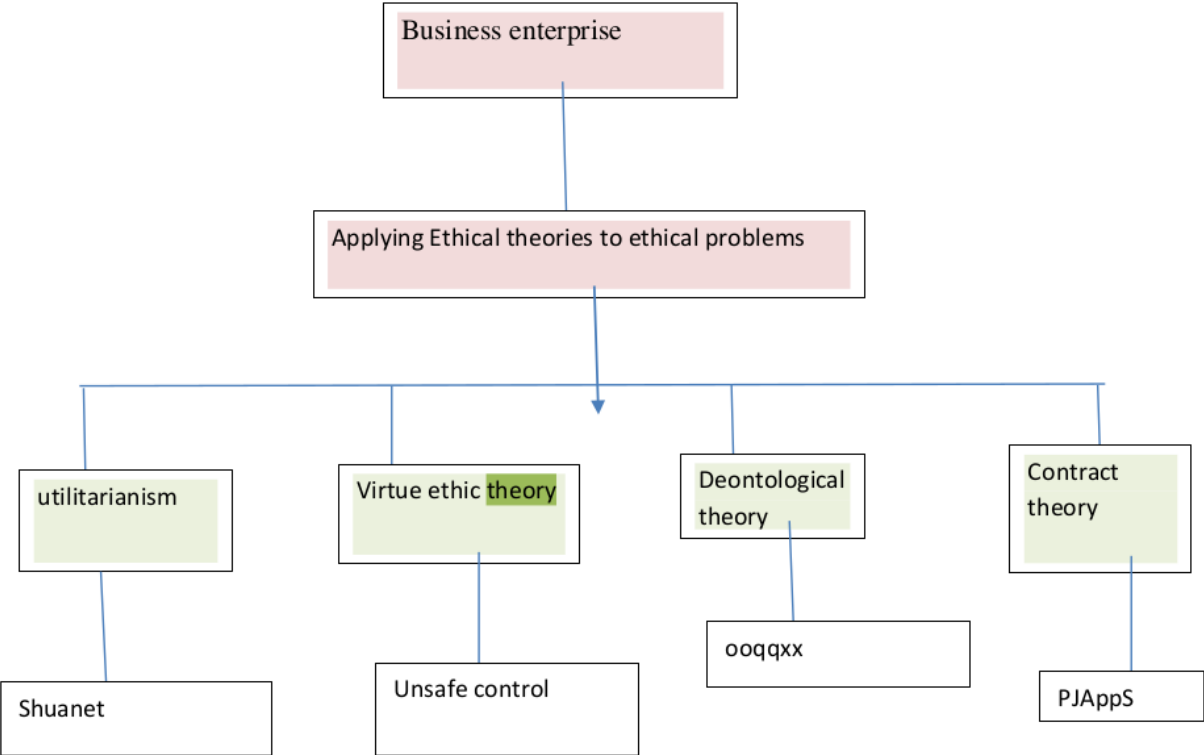
#### Conclusion

It is clear from the discussion on application of ethical theories in impersonating apps that different malware satirizes real initiative apps that entice people to download their malicious software which is unethical.

## References

- Mansfield-Devine, S. (2012). Android malware and mitigations. *Network Security*, 2012(11), 12-20.
- Provos, N., McNamee, D., Mavrommatis, P., Wang, K., & Modadugu, N. (2007). The Ghost in the Browser: Analysis of Web-based Malware. *HotBots*, 7, 4-4.
- Töyssy, S., & Helenius, M. (2006). About malicious software in smartphones. *Journal in Computer Virology*, 2(2), 109-119.
- Xenakis, C., Ntantogian, C., & Panos, O. (2016). (U) SimMonitor: A mobile application for security evaluation of cellular networks. *Computers & Security*, 60, 62-78.
- Zonouz, S., Rrushi, J., & McLaughlin, S. (2014). Detecting industrial control malware using automated plc code analytics. *IEEE Security & Privacy*, 12(6), 40-47.
- Abdallah, A. A. N., Darayseh, M., & Waples, E. (2013). Incomplete Contract, Agency Theory and Ethical Performance: A Synthesis of the Factors Affecting Owners' and Contractors' Performance in the Bidding Construction Process. *Journal of General Management*, 38(4), 39-56.
- Mill, J. S. (2016). Utilitarianism. In *Seven masterpieces of philosophy* (pp. 337-383). Routledge.
- Snow, N. E. (2010). *Virtue as social intelligence: An empirically grounded theory*. Routledge.
- Yoon, C. (2011). Theory of planned behavior and ethics theory in digital piracy: An integrated model. *Journal of business ethics*, 100(3), 405-417.
- Pereira, A., Correia, M., & Brandão, P. (2014, September). USB connection vulnerabilities on android smartphones: Default and vendors' customizations. In *IFIP International Conference on Communications and Multimedia Security* (pp. 19-32). Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg.

Appendix: Visualization diagram



# Applying ethical theory

## ORIGINALITY REPORT

3%

SIMILARITY INDEX

0%

INTERNET SOURCES

0%

PUBLICATIONS

3%

STUDENT PAPERS

## PRIMARY SOURCES

1

Submitted to Grand Canyon University

Student Paper

1%

2

Submitted to Study Group Australia

Student Paper

1%

Exclude quotes

Off

Exclude matches

< 4 words

Exclude bibliography

On



# Applying ethical theory

## GRADEMARK REPORT

FINAL GRADE

/20

GENERAL COMMENTS

**Instructor**

PAGE 1

PAGE 2

PAGE 3

PAGE 4

PAGE 5

PAGE 6