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1. Identify the main ethical question or questions faced by the main character ("you") in the scenario. This will certainly include "what should you do?", but there may be other interesting questions to consider.

The main ethical question faced by the main character in the scenario is whether to report the discovered bug to InstaToonz. If they choose to report the bug, they could help InstaToonz protect the data and privacy of their users, but could also risk InstaToonz pursuing legal action against them for discovering the bug. If they choose to not disclose the bug they discovered, they save themselves from any legal action but are knowingly leaving user data vulnerable to hackers.

2. For each stakeholder (or category of stakeholders) in the scenario, identify the stakeholder's relevant rights.

The stakeholders are the person who discovered the bug, InstaToonz, and InstaToonz users. My relevant rights are to be protected legally by freedom of speech laws and possibly legally protected during reporting if I did not break any laws in the process. InstaToonz has the right to protect their intellectual property and their company, and also has the right to pursue legal action against me if they believe I have infringed on that. The users have the right to privacy and should be able to trust that the platforms they use protect their data.

3. List any information missing from the scenario that you would like to have to help you make better choices.

The main thing missing from the scenario that I need to know to help me make my choice is how I discovered this bug. If I discovered the bug while doing something with malicious intent then my choice may be different than if it had appeared while using the platform in a typical manner. Another thing missing from the scenario that I would like to have to help me make a better choice is if the InstaToonz terms of service prohibit whatever I was doing when I discovered the bug and what legal action they would be able to take against me. I would also like to know if there is a way to report the bug anonymously, either through InstaToonz or a third party cybersecurity safety platform, that would ensure that this issue gets dealt with without my name being attached to the reporting. I would also like to know if user profiles are attached to people's real names, and if this is a platform where people frequently use the direct

messaging feature. If user profiles are anonymous or direct messaging is not really used, then I view it as less of a security threat than if profiles were tied to people's real names or if direct messaging was a common use of the platform. If we were in the US, I would also like to know what state both the company and I are in, as consumer protection laws differ and my legal protections may as well. The last thing I would like to know to make a better decision is what a lawyer would advise me to do. I would not want to make a choice without knowing the full ramifications of that choice.

 Describe your possible actions, and discuss the likely consequences of those actions.

One choice I could make would be to report the bug to InstaToonz. This could protect user data, but could also make me vulnerable to being sued by the company. Another choice I could make is if I can anonymously report the bug to a third party cybersecurity agency. If this forces InstaToonz to take action, this could protect both user data and also myself. Another choice I could make would be to do nothing, which would leave user data vulnerable but also ensure that I would not be sued or arrested.

5. Discuss whether the <u>ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct</u> offers any relevant guidance.

The ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct has the principle "Avoid harm", which states that "A computing professional has an additional obligation to report any signs of system risks that might result in harm". This reemphasizes the ethical commitment one has to reporting these data privacy issues.

6. Describe and justify your recommended action, as well as your answers to any other questions you presented in part A.

If the bug involves the encryption and copy-protection of the music shared by InstaToonz users, then I would make the choice not to share the discovered bug. If I am in violation of Section 1201 of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, then I could be found liable for infringement and could face civil or criminal penalties. If the bug involves encryption or copy-protection of the music, I believe that the stakes are too high for me to report the bug, unless I could do so anonymously.

If the bug does not involve the encryption and copy-protection of the music, I believe that I should report the bug to InstaToonz. I believe it is my ethical responsibility to do so, and user privacy should be protected. If I did not infringe on the encryption and

copy-protection of the music, then I also think InstaToonz may be more lenient with pursuing legal action, especially given the backlash from the first attempted lawsuit. Since the stakes are lower and it would be a bad PR move from InstaToonz to sue someone for ethically reporting a user privacy issue, I think it makes sense to report the bug.