Utilitarianism

The ethical theory of Utilitarianism can be used to analyze the questions that arise from Alexis' situation.

The first question that needs to be answered is whether or not Alexis has done anything that can be considered morally wrong. According to the principal of utility, it appears that Alexis has not actually committed a moral wrong. In Alexis' situation, she has two choices; she either uses the computers, as she has chosen, or she does not. If Alexis had chosen to not use the other user's login information, she would not have had an outcome that increased her happiness. Even though Alexis did steal the information from another student, that student did not experience any decrease in happiness, according to the scenario.

Bentham proposes several attributes that should be taken into account when calculating the utility of an action. The attributes that apply most directly to Alexis' situation are *Intensity*, *Duration*, and *Extent* (Quinn).

Works Cited

Quinn, Michael J. *Ethics for the Information Age. 6th Edition.* Boston: Pearson/Addison-Wesley, 2013.