Ethical Analysis

Uses of power – individual

People living in tornado alley or others areas that are affected by our datasets may be affected individually by our findings. Individuals have the power to choose where to live and they type of house to buy. In making such decisions, individuals usually consider the type of weather that occurs within an area. Our data must be reliable as to ensure that an individual such as a home buyer chooses the correct location and materials based on things such as the number of tornadoes in an area or the sea level.

Privacy – national/global

Big Data will be made accessible on the St. Olaf wiki page, so appropriate measures should be taken to protect any personal information. If Big Data were to add a feature that allows users to submit their analysis of the data or store their personal data in the program, security measures must be taken to protect the users’ information. Any predictions that team members make using the data should be based solely on the data, as not to spread false information to the general populous.

Honesty and Deception – group

The development team for Big Data had to ensure that all sample data was not modified in any way. Our data was downloaded directly from a government website, which should ensure the validity of the data. No data values are modified during the MapReduce process or in the graphical displaying of the data. Further, all data is openly available to the user in the form of .txt files to so they can check their own data with our sample data.