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**INFO1010**  
**Personal and Professional Development**  
**October 2011**

Professional Ethics  
Su White

## Revisions for 2009

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- Need 100+copies of BCS Code of Conduct
- Boxes for handback at the end of the class
- Do the activity first - maybe??

# **Ethics: a definition**

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**Ethics:**  
**“The science of morals;  
the department of study  
concerned with the principles  
of human duty”.**  
**OED**

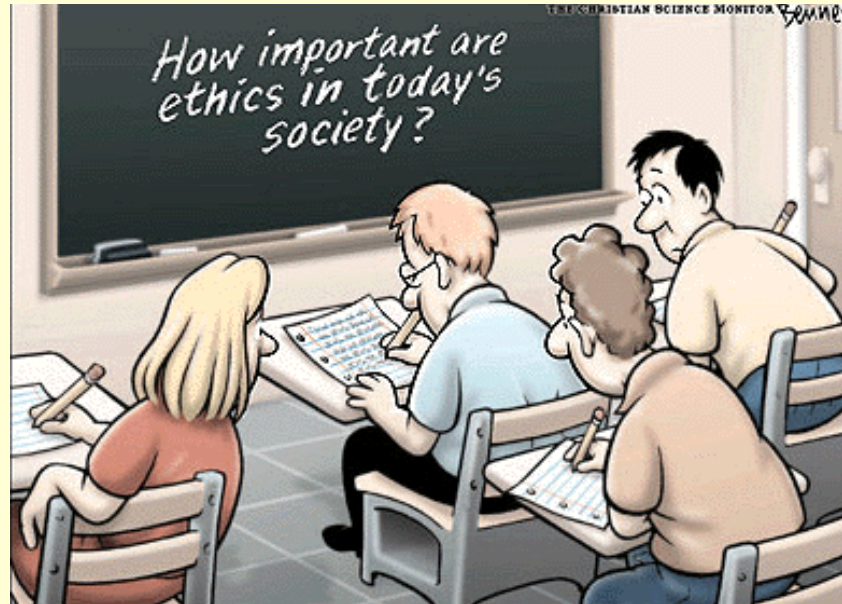
# Seeing with new eyes



“The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new lands, but in seeing with new eyes.”

– Marcel Proust

# “How important are ethics in today’s society”?



**From Pepperdine University  
Graziadio School of Business and Management**

# “Buster you do your job and I’ll do mine”



IET ethics article <http://www.iee.org/>

# How this lecture is structured

## Style

- Mostly Practical
  - Thinking
  - Discussing
  - Feedback

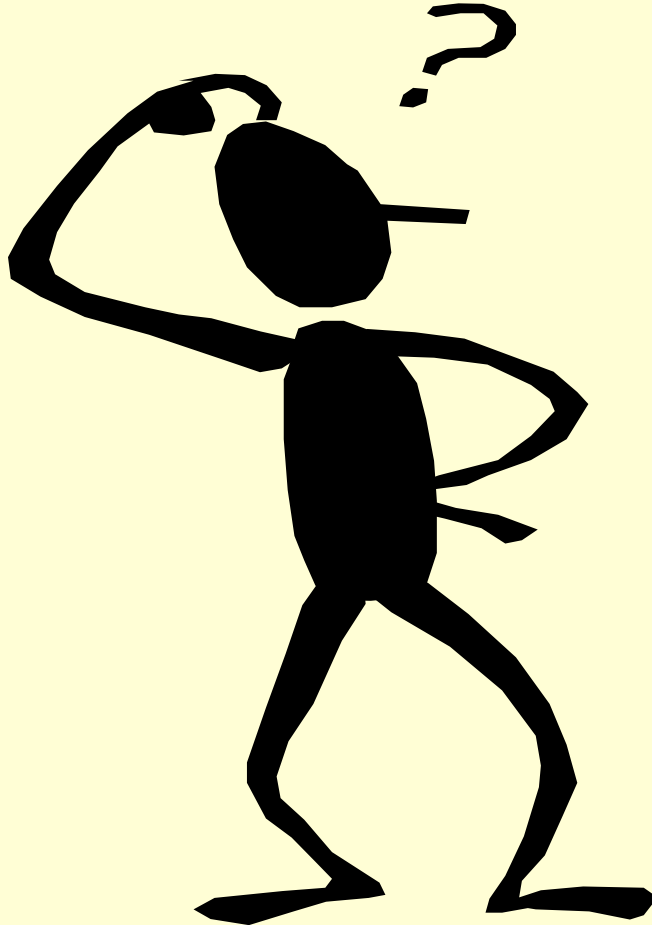
## Process

- Context
- Activities
- Reflection

## Follow up

NB: The slides are designed to make up a set of notes.  
Appendix is further reading/references

# TPS: Ethical Dilemmas



What sort of ethical dilemmas have you encountered?

Have you experienced people being unethical?

- At collect/school?
- On the sports field?
- In work?
- In public life?

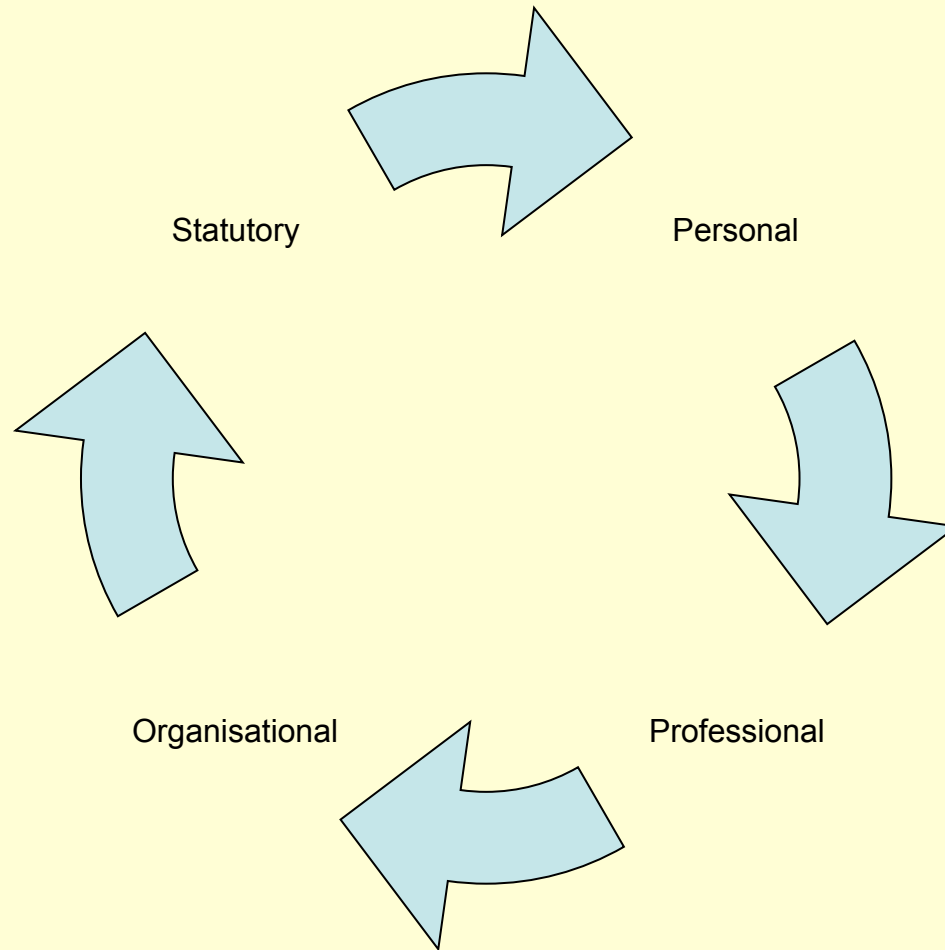


# Why is this is relevant to you?

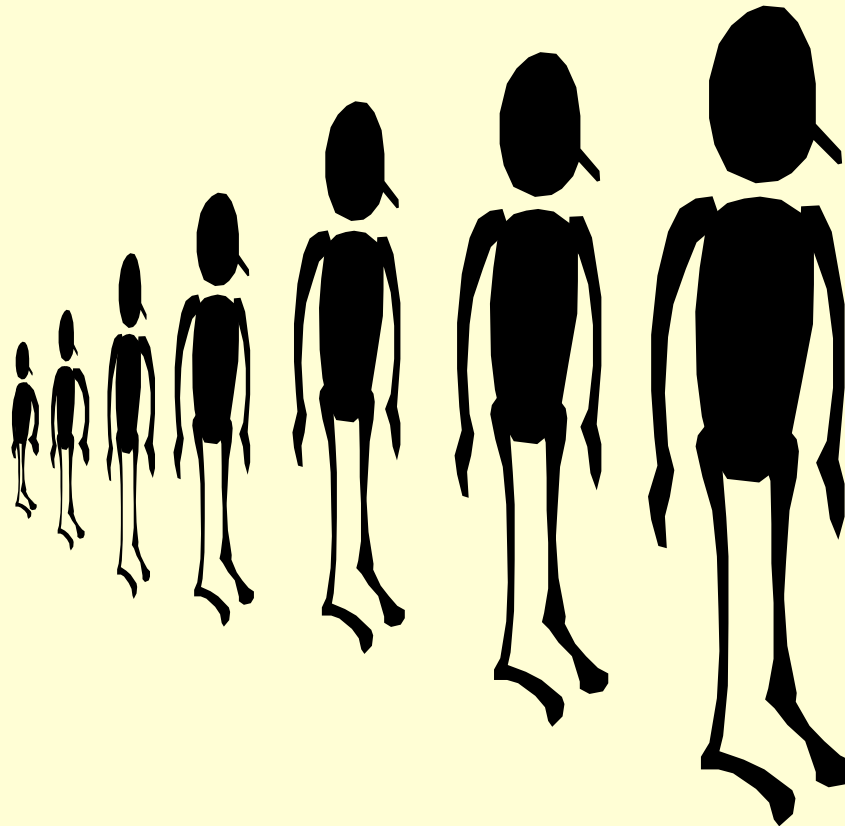
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- Professional Accreditation
- Developing my own set of values
- Preparing for the future
- Informing my future behaviour
- ++

# Ethical Values and Obligations



# Do you follow the crowd?



# BCS Code of Conduct



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BCS AGM 2011

Press Office

Consultations and responses

## BCS Trustee Board agrees revised Code of Conduct

3 May 2011

The review of BCS' Code of Conduct, which was originally published in November 2006, is now complete and the Trustee Board has agreed the revised version. The updated Code of Conduct applies to all members from 3 May 2011 and is [available to read on the public website](#) or in our [members' secure area](#).

A comprehensive review of the code was undertaken in 2010 by the Ethics Group. Members, Professionalism Board and Council were invited to contribute. All BCS members are bound by the Institute's Code of Conduct as a condition of membership.

As part of the review, Trustees accepted a recommendation to retire the existing Codes of Good Practice as these did not provide comprehensive coverage. The decision to discontinue the Codes follows agreement that it is not sustainable in a field as diverse as IT where there is such rapid change.

BCS remains committed to good practice and all members have a duty to participate

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[Nomination time](#)

[BCS supports the UK's biggest project management show](#)

[BCS and WCIT to work together](#)

# BCS code of practice: details

<http://www.bcs.org/content/conMediaFile/393>

## Topics

- **1. Public Interest**
- **2. Professional Competence and Integrity**
- **3. Duty to Relevant Authority**
- **4. Duty to the Profession**

## Activity

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- In your group of three look through the copy of the code of conduct you have been given

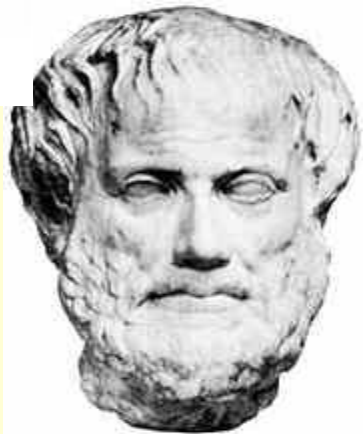
On the acetates you have been given

- create a code for ECS undergraduates
  - Two of three groups will be asked to come forward and present their code

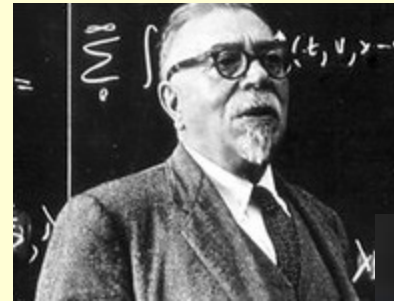
# Who has led the thinking?



**Plato**



**Aristotle**



**Weiner**



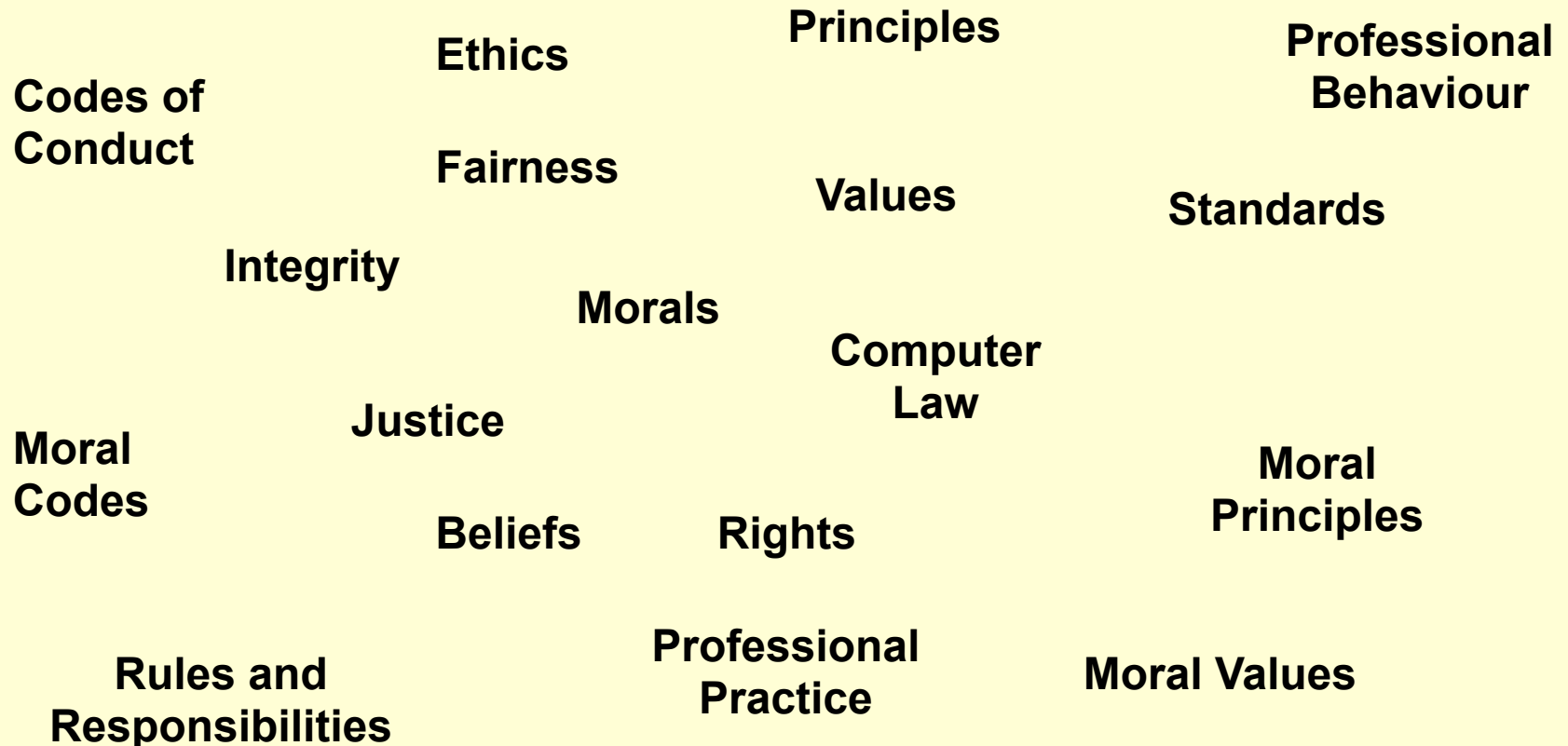
**Parker**



**Maner**

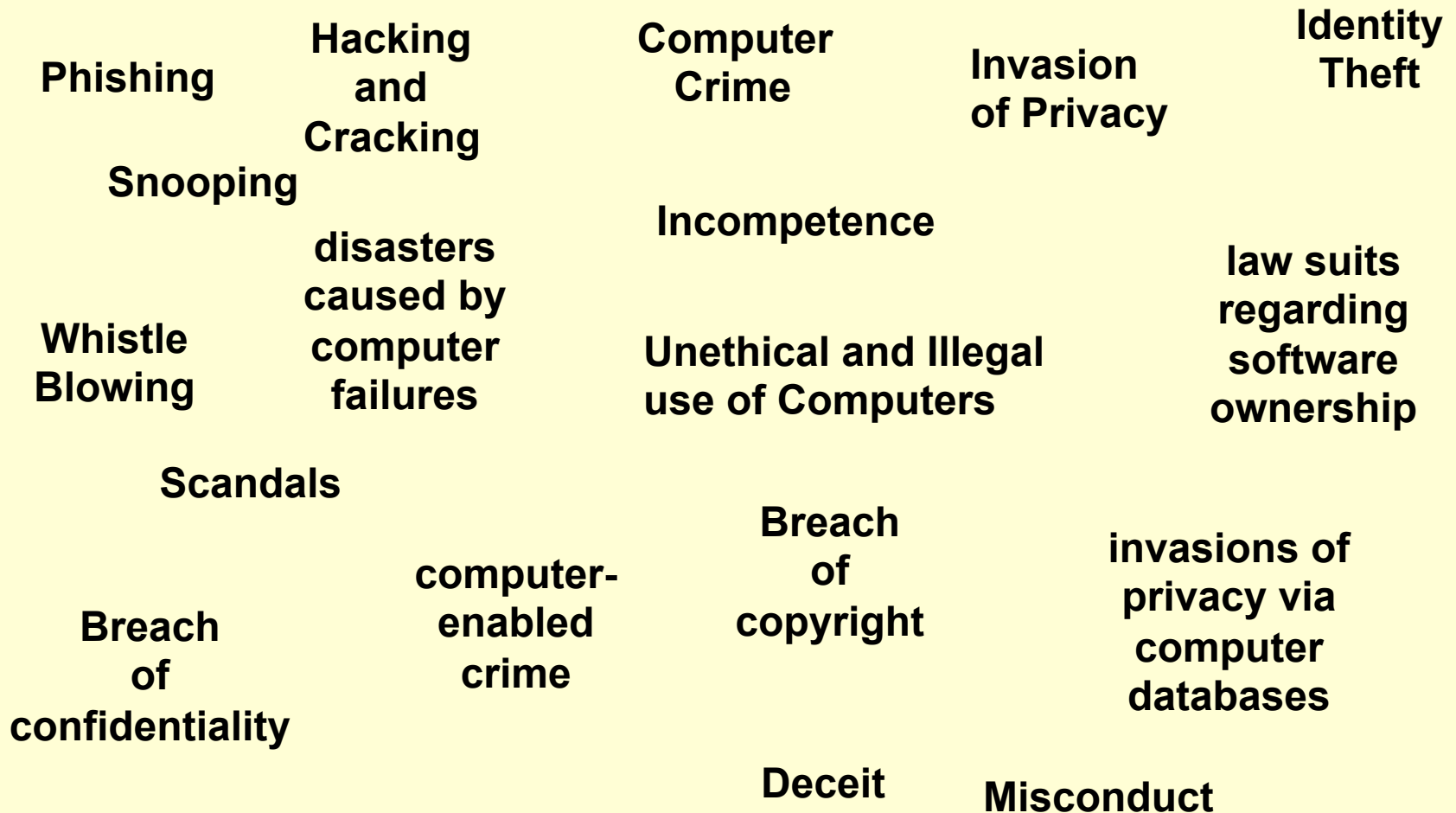
# What might ethics include?

**Ethics: “The science of morals; the department of study concerned with the principles of human duty”. OED**





# Consequences of poor ethics?



Source included

Bynum, Terrell, "Computer Ethics: Basic Concepts and Historical Overview"

# Examples of codes

## Computer Ethics Institute

*Providing a moral compass for the ocean of information technology*

[Home](#) [About CEI](#) [Events](#) [Publications](#) [CEI in the Press](#)

### ***Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics***

Created by the Computer Ethics Institute  
(Please Cite the Computer Ethics Institute if you quote us)

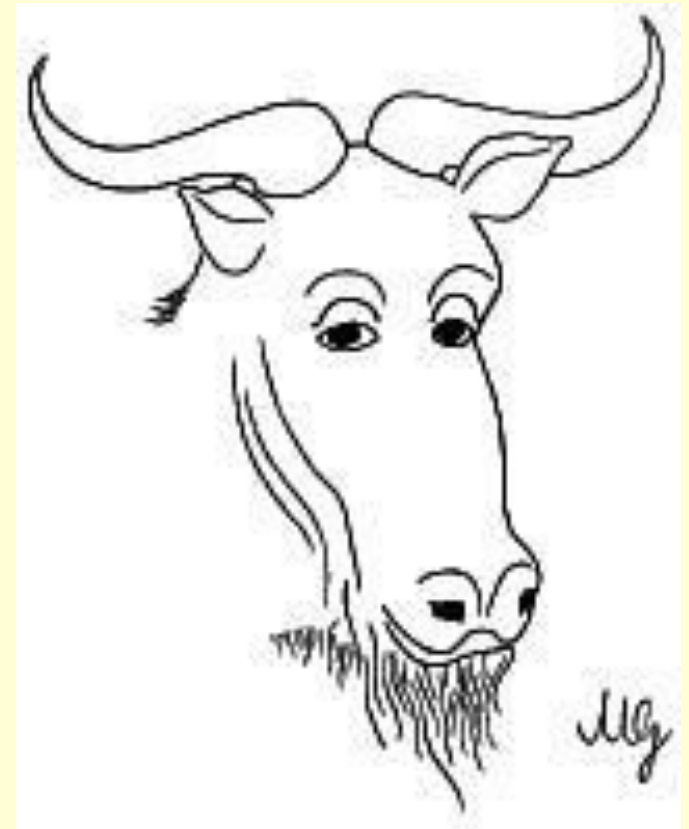
1. Thou Shalt Not Use A Computer To Harm Other People.
2. Thou Shalt Not Interfere With Other People's Computer Work.
3. Thou Shalt Not Snoop Around In Other People's Computer Files.
4. Thou Shalt Not Use A Computer To Steal.
5. Thou Shalt Not Use A Computer To Bear False Witness.
6. Thou Shalt Not Copy Or Use Proprietary Software For Which You have Not Paid.
7. Thou Shalt Not Use Other People's Computer Resources Without Authorization Or Proper Compensation.
8. Thou Shalt Not Appropriate Other People's Intellectual Output.
9. Thou Shalt Think About The Social Consequences Of The Program You Are Writing Or The System You Are Designing.
10. Thou Shalt Always Use A Computer In Ways That Insure Consideration And Respect For Your Fellow Humans.

See the *Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics* in PDF

The *Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics* were first presented in Dr. Ramon C. Barquin's paper, "*In Pursuit of a 'Ten Commandments' for Computer Ethics.*"

# Who might make a difference?

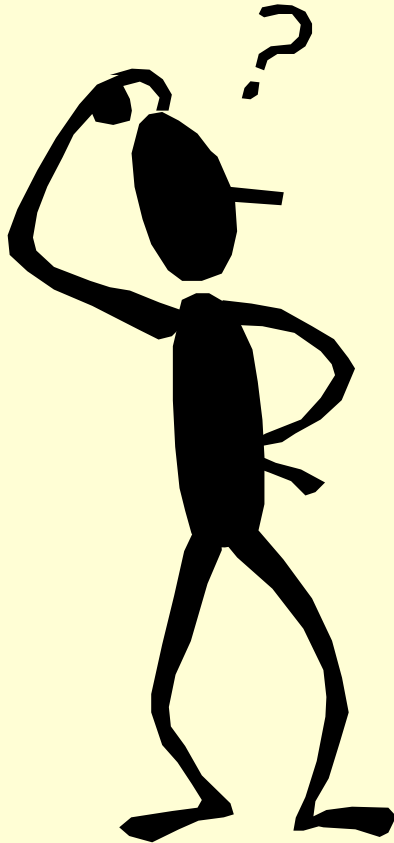
- Electronic Frontier Foundation
- Creative Commons
- SourceForge
- CopyLeft
- Professional Bodies
- ...YOU?



## Suggested topics

- Computers in the Workplace
- Computer Crime
- Privacy and Anonymity
- Intellectual Property
- Professional Responsibility
- Globalization
- The Meta-ethics of Computer Ethics

# TPS: Examples of computer crime



Can you identify  
three examples of ethical issues  
in computing and IT

## Activity

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- In your group look through the copies of the code of conduct you have been given

On the paper you have been given

- create a code for ECS undergraduates
- I would like to be able to show off a couple of sets of codes to the rest of the students
- In previous years we have had some very good efforts 😊

# Five Questions...

- **Did I practice any virtues today?**

In *The Book of Virtues*, William Bennett notes that virtues are "habits of the heart" we learn through models--the loving parent or aunt, the demanding teacher, the respectful manager, the honest shopkeeper. They are the best parts of ourselves.

- Ask yourself, Did I cross a line today that gave up one of those parts? Or was I, at least some of the time, a person who showed integrity, trustworthiness, honesty, compassion, or any of the other virtues I was taught as a child?

- **Did I do more good than harm today?**

Or did I try to? Consider the short term and long-term consequences of your actions.

- **Did I treat people with dignity and respect today?**

All human beings should be treated with dignity simply because they are human. People have moral rights, especially the fundamental right to be treated as free and equal human beings, not as things to be manipulated, controlled, or cast away.

- How did my actions today respect the moral rights and the dignified treatment to which every person is entitled?

- **Was I fair and just today?**

Did I treat each person the same unless there was some relevant moral reason to treat him or her differently? Justice requires that we be fair in the way we distribute benefits and burdens. Whom did I benefit and whom did I burden? How did I decide?

- **Was my community better because I was in it?**

- **Was I better because I was in my community?**

Consider your primary community, however you define it--neighborhood, apartment building, family, company, church, etc. Now ask yourself, Was I able to get beyond my own interests to make that community stronger? Was I able to draw on my community's strengths to help me in my own process of becoming more human?

- <http://www.scu.edu/ethics/publications/iie/v8n1/everydayethics.html>

Thank you 😊



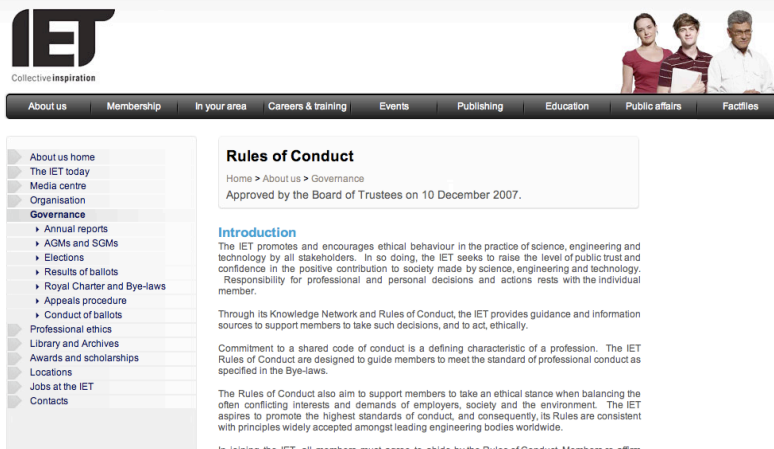
# webliography

- If you are especially interested in this topic you may like to follow it up through the following web sites:
- The Internet Encyclopaedia of Philosophy  
<http://www.iep.utm.edu/>
- Research Center on Computers and Society  
<http://www.southernct.edu/organizations/rccs/>
- Computerethics.org  
<http://www.computerethics.org> - takes you to the site above!!
- Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics  
<http://computerethicsinstitute.org/publications/tencommandments.html>

# Codes of Ethics...

## IET Rules of Conduct

<http://www.theiet.org/about/governance/rules-conduct/>



**IET**  
Collective Inspiration

Home > About us > Governance  
Approved by the Board of Trustees on 10 December 2007.

**Rules of Conduct**

**Introduction**

The IET promotes and encourages ethical behaviour in the practice of science, engineering and technology by all stakeholders. In so doing, the IET seeks to raise the level of public trust and confidence in the positive contribution to society made by science, engineering and technology. Responsibility for professional and personal decisions and actions rests with the individual member.

Through its Knowledge Network and Rules of Conduct, the IET provides guidance and information sources to support members to take such decisions, and to act, ethically.

Commitment to a shared code of conduct is a defining characteristic of a profession. The IET Rules of Conduct are designed to guide members to meet the standard of professional conduct as specified in the Bye-laws.

The Rules of Conduct also aim to support members to take an ethical stance when balancing the often conflicting interests and demands of employers, society and the environment. The IET aspires to promote the highest standards of conduct, and consequently, its Rules are consistent with principles widely accepted amongst leading engineering bodies worldwide.

In joining the IET, all members must agree to abide by the Rules of Conduct. Members re-affirm their commitment to the Rules through the annual renewal of their membership. The Rules of Conduct are defined by members for members and are reviewed regularly to ensure they remain relevant. Suggestions that a member's conduct has contravened the Rules are reviewed under the Institution's investigation and disciplinary procedures.

## BCS Code of Conduct and Code of Good Practice

<http://www.bcs.org/server.php?show=conWebDoc.1587>



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BCS Assessors for Chartered Membership  
**Code of Conduct and Good Practice**  
Code of Conduct  
Code of Good Practice  
Grades  
Become a member  
Become Chartered  
Upgrading and renewing membership  
Group Membership (Employers)  
Member Area

**BCS Code of Conduct & Code of Good Practice**

All of our members agree to abide by the BCS Code of Conduct and to observe the provisions of the BCS Code of Good Practice.

[BCS Code of Conduct](#)

The BCS Code of Conduct sets out the professional standards required by BCS as a condition of membership.

It applies to members of all grades, including students, and affiliates, and also non-members who offer their expertise as part of the BCS Professional Advice Register.

[BCS Code of Good Practice](#)

The BCS Code of Good Practice describes standards of practice relating to the contemporary multifaceted demands found in IT.

It is intended to help you personally as a member of BCS by providing a framework of guidance into which your particular needs can be fitted.

## Actual references

Bynum, Terrell, "Computer Ethics: Basic Concepts and Historical Overview", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (Winter 2001 Edition)*, Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <http://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2001/entries/ethics-computer/>

Terrell Ward Bynum and Simon Rogerson, Eds., *Computer Ethics and Professional Responsibility*, Blackwell, 2004.

# Want to know more?

## Read the text...

- Computer ethics and professional responsibility  
Bynum, Terrell Ward and Simon Rogerson.  
Hartley Library Location QA 76.9M65 BYN

## Play the game

- Oracle Education Foundation's ThinkQuest  
Computer Ethics  
<http://library.thinkquest.org/26658/>

## Surf the Web

- Ethics on the World Wide Web  
<http://commfaculty.fullerton.edu/lester/ethics/computer.html>
- Code of the Geeks – a rather different take on Codes...  
<http://www.geekcode.com/geek.html>

# Appendix

Additional  
Materials

## Books

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**The Real World of Technology (CBC Massey Lectures series) by [Ursula Franklin](#)**

[http://www.anansi.ca/titles.cfm?pub\\_id=58](http://www.anansi.ca/titles.cfm?pub_id=58)

<http://www.onlineethics.org/codes/index.html>

# Computing and Moral Responsibility

## Journals On-line

- [ETHICOMP Journal](#). Publishes papers presented at ETHICOMP conference series, an international conference series of interest to those working in computer ethics.
- [Ethics and Information Technology](#). Published by Kluwer; peer-reviewed journal spanning a wide variety of issues and approaches to exploring in the intersection of moral philosophy and information / communications technology.
- [Metaphilosophy](#) Published by Blackwell; peer-reviewed journal that has been publishing articles in the area of computer ethics (including computing and responsibility) since the 1980's.
- [Minds and Machines: Journal for Artificial Intelligence, Philosophy and Cognitive Science](#). Published by Kluwer; peer-reviewed journal that occasionally includes articles related to the ethics / moral responsibility of artificially intelligent computer systems.
  
- **Centers**
- [Research Center on Computing and Society](#) (at Southern Connecticut State University)
- [Centre for Computing and Social Responsibility](#) (at De Montfort University)
- [Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility](#) (CPSR)
  
- **Organizations**
- [INSEIT: International Society for Ethics and Information Technology](#)
  
- **Sources**
- Computing and moral responsibility

# Research centre for computing and society

- <http://www.computerethics.org>
- Material on ethical decision making and case analysis. I think many computer ethics courses and textbooks tend to over do this part, offering far too many ethical theories and concepts that go way beyond what the students will ever need or use. I believe that Chapter 3 of the Bynum/Rogerson textbook gets it right (but, of course, I would say this, since I wrote Chapter 3!)
- Material on the concepts of professionalism and professional ethics. Don Gotterbarn's writings are terrific, including some that he has on-line on his SEERI web site:  
  
<http://www-cs.etsu-tn.edu/seeri/index2.htm>  
  
as well as his chapters (5 and 8) in the Bynum/Rogerson textbook.
- Materials on the concept of a professional code of ethics, as well as sample codes of ethics from professional organizations like ACM, BCS, ACS, IMIS, etc. See Part III of the Bynum/Rogerson textbook.
- Materials covering a representative sampling of “traditional” and “new” computer ethics topics like computer security (viruses, hacking, terrorism, etc.); ownership of intellectual property (e.g. software and open source, music and video files on the Internet, etc.); privacy (e.g., computerized profiles, data mining, matching, etc.); globalization (e.g. cultural conflicts, jurisdiction of laws across borders, international computing agreements, etc.), and so on. See Part IV of the Bynum/Rogerson textbook, as well as the textbook-related web site:



# Textbook - Web Resources

From the web resources for Computer Ethics: Basic Concepts and Historical Overview Part I:

- Bynum, T. W. “Computer Ethics: Basic Concepts and Historical Overview”  
<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/ethics-computer/>
- Centre for Computing and Social Responsibility, De Montfort University, UK  
<http://www.ccsr.cse.dmu.ac.uk/index.html>
- Research Center on Computing & Society, Southern Connecticut State University, USA  
<http://www.computerethics.org>
- Tavani, H. T. “Computing, Ethics and Social Responsibility: A Bibliography”  
<http://cyberethics.cbi.msstate.edu/biblio/>

## Part II:

- The Association for Computing Machinery  
<http://www.acm.org>
- The Australian Computer Society  
<http://www.acs.org.au>
- The British Computer Society  
<http://www1.bcs.org.uk>
- Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility  
<http://www.ccsr.org>
- Professional Accountability Section of the Website of the Online Ethics Center  
<http://onlineethics.org/topics/accountability.html>
- Professionalism Section of the Website of the Centre for Computing and Social Responsibility  
<http://www.ccsr.cse.dmu.ac.uk/resources/professionalism>

## Part III:

- ACM Position Papers on Software Engineering and Licensing  
[http://www.acm.org/serving/se\\_policy/papers.html](http://www.acm.org/serving/se_policy/papers.html)
- Codes of Ethics links on the web site of the Centre for Computing and Social Responsibility  
<http://www.ccsr.cse.dmu.ac.uk/resources/professionalism/codes/>
- Commentary on “The Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics” by N. Ben Fairweather  
[http://www.ccsr.cse.dmu.ac.uk/resources/professionalism/codes/cei\\_command\\_com.html](http://www.ccsr.cse.dmu.ac.uk/resources/professionalism/codes/cei_command_com.html)
- The Software Engineering Ethics Research Institute at East Tennessee State University at Johnson City, TN, USA  
<http://seeri.etsu.edu>

## Part IV: SECURITY

- Center for Education and Research in Information Assurance and Security (CERIAS) at Purdue University, Eugene H. Spafford, Director  
<http://www.cerias.purdue.edu/>
- Computer Security Group, Cambridge University, UK  
<http://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/Research/Security/>
- Computer Security Institute  
<http://www.gocsi.com/>
- Computer Security Research Center, London School of Economics  
<http://csrc.lse.ac.uk/>
- The Risks Digest: Forum On Risks To The Public In Computers And Related Systems, ACM Committee on Computers and Public Policy, Peter G. Neumann, Moderator  
<http://catless.ncl.ac.uk/Risks>

## Part V: PRIVACY

- The Electronic Privacy Information Center  
<http://www.epic.org>
- The Information Commissioner of the United Kingdom  
<http://www.dataprotection.gov.uk>
- The Office of the Federal Privacy Commissioner, Australia  
<http://www.privacy.gov.au>
- Privacy International  
<http://www.privacy.org/pi/>
- Privacy.net  
<http://www.privacy.net>
- Privacy.org  
<http://www.privacy.org>

## Part VI: OWNERSHIP

- Electronic Frontier Foundation “Intellectual Property Online: Patent, Trademark, Copyright” Archive  
[http://www.eff.org/pub/Intellectual\\_property](http://www.eff.org/pub/Intellectual_property)
- Raymond, E. “The Cathedral and the Bazaar” a website on the open source movement  
[http://www.firstmonday.dk/issues/issue3\\_3/raymond/](http://www.firstmonday.dk/issues/issue3_3/raymond/)
- Softward Ownership and Intellectual Property Rights: A Monograph (See especially the article “A Plea for Casual Copying” by Helen Nissenbaum)  
[http://www.computerethics.org/resources/research/intellectual\\_property/ownership\\_mono/ownership\\_contents.html](http://www.computerethics.org/resources/research/intellectual_property/ownership_mono/ownership_contents.html)
- Volkman, R. “Softward Ownership and Natural Rights”  
[http://www.computerethics.org/resources/research/intellectual\\_property/volkman\\_nat-rights.html](http://www.computerethics.org/resources/research/intellectual_property/volkman_nat-rights.html)
- World Intellectual Property Organization  
<http://www.wipo.org>

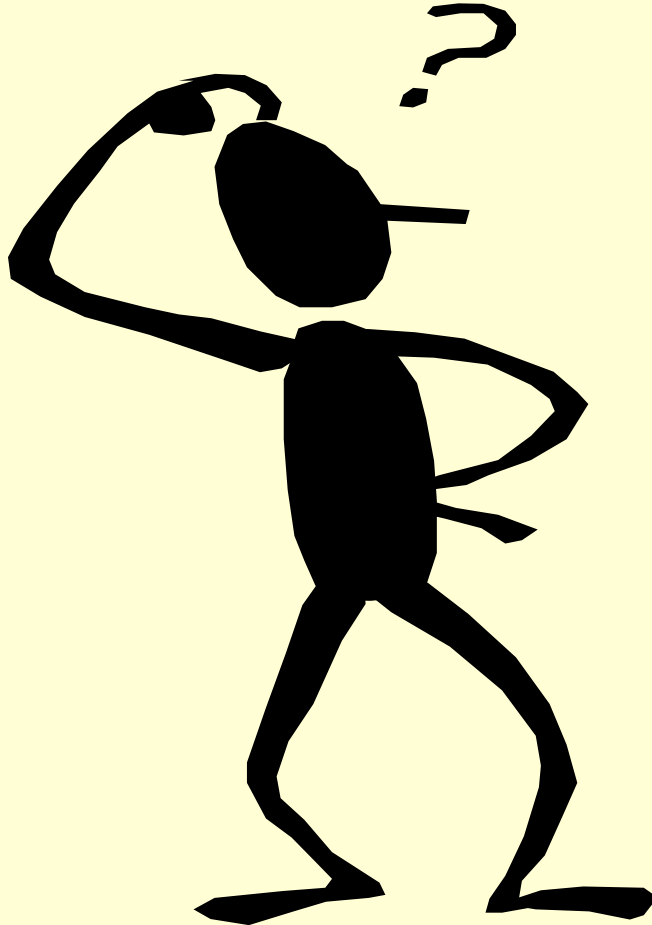
## Part VII: GLOBALIZATION

- The Cyber Rights Working Group, Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility  
<http://www.cpsr.org/cpsr/nii/cyber-rights/>
- “The Global Culture of Digital Technology and Its Ethics,” an abstract of a paper by Krystyna Gorniak-Kocikowska  
<http://www.ccsr.cse.dmu.ac.uk/conferences/ccsrconf/ethicomp2001/abstracts/gorniak.html>
- The Internet Society – an international organization for global cooperation  
<http://www.isoc.org/isoc/>
- UNESCO’s Info-Ethics Program, The United Nations  
<http://www.unesco.org/webworld/infoethics/infoethics.htm>

# Activities



# TPS: Ethical Dilemmas

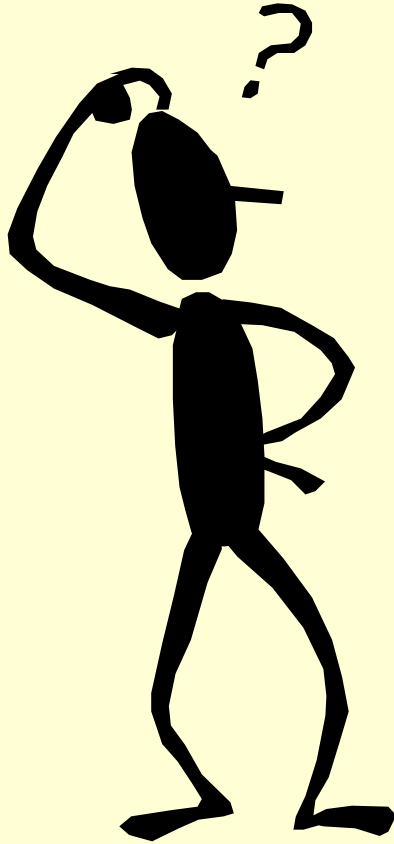


What sort of ethical dilemmas have you encountered?

Have you experienced people being unethical?

- At collect/school?
- On the sports field?
- In work?
- In public life?

# TPS: Examples of computer crime



Can you identify  
three examples of ethical issues  
in computing and IT

# Activity

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- In your group of three look through the copy of the code of conduct you have been given

On the acetates you have been given

- create a code for ECS undergraduates
  - Two of three groups will be asked to come forward and present their code