End of Course Reflection

As I think about this course and all the different topics we discussed, I am drawn to three in particular and what they mean to me. The three issues that I think will relate to my planned career and my life are Privacy, Data Ethics, and Professional Ethics. As someone who wants to go into Cybersecurity, these three topics, will play a significant role in my career. I will tell you what I initially thought about these topics and if those thoughts changed after reading the course materials and getting better acquainted with them.

The concept of Privacy should be a concern for us all but especially for those in the Cybersecurity field. It is the very foundation that our area revolves around, but without someone breaching someone's privacy, we would not have the potential to have a career. My stance on privacy is that everyone should be entitled to it with no exceptions. It should be a fundamental right. No one should breach your privacy, not for research purposes, curiosity, or to make money by selling your data to third parties so they can sell you products. I thought my way of thinking was it, that I knew all I needed to know about privacy and how it involves me. But Luciano Floridi informed me that there were four different kinds of privacy.

First is physical privacy and the freedom from sensory interference or intrusion and the invasion of your personal space. Secondly, there is mental privacy and the freedom from psychological intrusions and someone's ability to manipulate your mental life. Thirdly, is decisional privacy and someone's ability to include themselves in my decision-making process— lastly, informational privacy and the informational intrusion on a restriction on my known or unknown facts. Thanks to Floridi, my takeaway from his knowledge is a broader sense of what it means for someone to invade my privacy. I can use that knowledge to help better the fight to keep someone else's privacy safe when I start my career.

Data Ethics is another equally important issue we will deal with in our new careers. I never knew about the "Tastes, Ties, and Time" dataset project that researchers did to 1,700 students at a northeastern American university without the students' knowledge. Once I post something on social media, I knew that I could lose any rights to my privacy for the thought I posted. But what I didn't realize is that even if I set my profile to private and only wanted to share with a specific subset of people, my data could still be farmed by people, not in my circle, and shown to the world. That was a scary realization that I had to swallow, that even if I did the responsible thing and limit my information when posting on my kids, they were still at risk. I am

glad that I learned this information, not just for myself but for my future clients. So, I can stress to them the importance of what they post online, and if someone is looking for it and know where to start, they can figure it out.

Finally, I am not naïve to think that I can go my whole career and not run into a situation where Professional Ethics would be paramount to what I do. I knew that as professionals, we have to abide by specific codes to act morally in the work we put out and the public we protect. I didn't know that there were so many ways we could wrong the well-being of society with our inability to recognize or act on violations of the code of ethics. I now know that there are some avenues and channels that I can navigate if I need to report or challenge laws being broken or unethical, and I won't be alone in my fight. That I can make sure whatever product I put my name on or publish to the world is ethically and morally sound for society to use. I am grateful for taking Cyber Ethics this semester. I am confident in my ability to help the community accomplish our goals in whatever field of Cybersecurity I enter after graduation.