

Ethical considerations within the readings and real-world events that align with the assignments have provided thoughtful conversations between myself and the people closest to me. The most memorable being Edward Snowden's story of whistleblowing in 2013. I personally researched recent interviews and found Joe Rogan's podcast for a relaxed and less high-risk experience than what was provided in the Case Study. I spoke with my partner, who is active-duty in the Air Force, and my father who is an Air Force retiree. Each gave different perspectives based on their own morals and valuable insights. As the situation was complex, I initially thought that there would be more to my father's answer but he only stated that Snowden was a traitor and that the act of becoming a Russian citizen, an enemy to the United States, was enough to deem him a fugitive. It was a cut and dry response. In contrast, my partner and I shared our similar perspectives on the context, why he had leaked documents, and what were the consequences of his actions. Our conversation focused on the public and greater good rather than Snowden himself, judging him was not a focus and was left ambiguous.

Privacy is a subject that is dear to me as I would consider myself a closed book, I do not have public social media accounts that display myself or any personal information and I limit what is shared. Instead of using my full name, a selfie, or where I attend school, I have restricted my posts to my hobbies and interests. This satisfies the desire to be active online while feeling "safe" about what people do or do not know about me. I believe that everyone has an inherent right to privacy and it is ultimately up to the individual to divulge details about their lives or not. Most importantly, being free of judgement based on their decision. The choice may be based on past experiences such as being stalked, shame from comparison or deeply personal aspects, or simply allowing themselves a space to be who they are without pressure. I choose to not share information about myself because it protects me from additional stress, regret, or judgement from others. I am fulfilled with my view on privacy and it will never change.

Likewise, user data ethics is important to me and I am disgusted with the practices that companies like Facebook do for profit. Individuals who have not made a Facebook account have their data collected and a shadow account is created instead, collecting information about that person to build a profile without their knowledge or consent. It is scummy and a disregard for human autonomy. I try to protect my data as much as I can and I believe that most who grew up with technology have a digital footprint that was not explicitly taught to protect. Children who have used apps, websites, social media, and games online are susceptible to data collection by their constant use of technology. Let's be honest, most lied about their ages on websites and

games, which meant the COPPA laws did not protect as it should have. I grew up using a little HP laptop and Nook tablet that I had unlimited access to and no parental controls. The effects of such internet usage was unknown at the time, so I do not blame my parents. Instead, I have learned and the experience has provided me insight as to why I will be much stricter with technology when I have children. However, I know how complex it will be and I am still learning ways to realistically and effectively introduce safe navigation of technology when I parent in the future.

Overall, this course has introduced me to different moral perspectives that I had not taken into consideration before. The information I have absorbed will be beneficial to my future career. It will guide my decision making to prevent conflict and prioritize human rights, which will undoubtedly become gray in the future. I have described the ways this course has positively impacted my personal life by implementing deeper ethical conversations with loved ones. The main takeaways I took from this course is the importance of incorporating each person's unique perspectives to understand intent, consequences, and the balance between what deciphering is "good" or "harmful".