Chelsea Manning was placed into military prison for providing WikiLeaks with a video named “Collateral Murder”. In the “Collateral Murder” video, it showed the US army murdering a dozen unarmed civilians which included two Reuters employees. During her time on the base in Baghdad, Chelsea Manning had illegally downloaded US military reports from both wars and she was unsure on what to do with the information. Chelsea Manning spent hours as an intelligence official watching night vision videos and reading battle reports as bombs were going off in the distance. Chelsea Manning decided to give WikiLeaks with the video and put in military prison for her actions. After being released from military prison, Chelsea Manning was interviewed for her actions and the reason she did it was to get fellow American citizens more engaged with what was going on with the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. She made a public announcement that she was transgender and wanted to adjust to life to be identified as a woman. In this Case Analysis, I will argue that deontology shows us that Manning did act out of loyalty to the United States and that her actions were an immoral case of whistleblowing because it could have put the US military in jeopardy or cause the public to have access to information that should not have been given.

By providing WikiLeaks the “Collateral Murder” video footage, Chelsea Manning was disloyal to not just the US military, but the United States as a whole. Chelsea Manning stated in an interview after her release from military prison that she learned about WikiLeaks through a security training course that she took back in 2008. WikiLeaks seems like a company or organization that thrives off of whistleblowing. For instance, in Wim Vandekerckhove and M.S. Ronald Commers’s “*Whistle Blowing and Rational Loyalty*”, they explain how modern organizations are characterized as complex and decentralized which are two concepts that can be interrelated. These two concepts make contradicting organizational needs increase which is loyalty and institutionalized whistleblowing. The two concepts can relate to WikiLeaks because the organization relies on the loyalty of whistleblowers to provide them with leaked information that is attention worthy and they are successful due to whistleblowing. These are reasons how the two concepts of complexity and decentralization relate to how WikiLeaks runs their organization off of institutionalized whistleblowing and loyalty of whistleblowers.

Since Chelsea Manning decided to provide WikiLeaks with the “Collateral Murder” video footage, her actions made her seem disloyal to the US military. Even though the US military looked at Chelsea Manning as disloyal to them, she felt that she was making a statement by having the video footage leaked. The loyalty situation of Chelsea Manning can relate to the concept of ration loyalty which is mentioned in Wim Vandekerckhove and M.S. Ronald Commers’s “*Whistle Blowing and Rational Loyalty*”. Within Wim Vanderckhove and M.S. Ronald Commers’s “*Whistle Blowing and Rational Loyalty*”, it explains the concept of rational loyalty which is the object of loyalty is not the physicality of an organization, but its entity of explicit mission statements, goals, value statement, and code of conduct. The article also explains that since many organizations do not have a proper object of loyalty, there is no conflict between the duty to blow the whistle or loyalty. This concept can relate to Chelsea Manning’s footage leakage situation because she was not at first going to release it, but she realized that fellow American citizens back home needed to know what was going on even if it made her seem disloyal to the US military or put them in jeopardy.

Even though leaked the video footage to make a statement to get fellow American citizens engaged more with what was going on during the war, she could have put the US military in jeopardy. Chelsea Manning felt that providing the video footage to WikiLeaks would give it the attention that it needs for the public to see and to stop a lot of important historical information from being hidden from them. The actions of Chelsea Manning relate to the ethical tool of deontology. Deontology focuses on people’s reasons for acting in a condensing way whether a particular action is right or wrong. Chelsea Manning displayed deontology because she felt that her actions were right to show what was going on during the war, but her actions were going to put the US military at risk.

Another major issue that Chelsea Manning caused when leaking the video footage was putting out information that was not intended for the public to see. The US military and the government believed that Chelsea Manning’s leaked video footage was disturbing for the public to view. From Chelsea Manning’s viewpoint, she believed that she was serving justice to the dozen of unarmed civilians who were murdered by the US military. The justice actions of Chelsea Manning related to ethics of justice concept which is explained in Julinna Oxley and D.E. Wittkower’s “*Care and Loyalty in the Workplace*”. The ethics of justice concept refers to being equal and treated fairly. This ethics of justice concept is not based on obligation to care for the other part of a relationship, but to realize it's a failed relationship and it will result in separation. The ethics of justice concept is actually based on commitment and rooting for the expectation of mutual benefits. For Chelsea Manning’s situation, she was committed to serving justice for fellow American citizens to know what the US military did to the dozen of unarmed civilians even though it was not intended for the public to see.

Even though Chelsea Manning believed that her actions were bringing justice to unarmed civilians by showing the public what the US military was actually doing during the war, she was sent to military prison for it. Since her actions relate to the ethics of justice concept that is mentioned in Julinna Oxley and D.E. Wittkower’s “*Care and Loyalty in the Workplace*”, she felt that the US military and the United States as a whole should stop hiding information from its citizens. Chelsea Manning felt that the United States should let the American citizens get an insight on what is going on, but some information can put the public in jeopardy which can cause a separation within the country. Chelsea Manning main goal as whistleblower was to not commit to bring justice to the American citizens, but to herself also as a transgender person. Chelsea Manning felt that joining the military can be more structured and more patriotic. These are the reasons why the ethics of justice concept would put Chelsea Manning in a tough situation with the US military and the United States as whole.

By making a commitment to fellow American citizens to be more engaged that was happening during the war, Chelsea Manning was not aware that her actions were not intended for the public to know. Even though the actions of the US military was immoral, Chelsea Manning’s leaked video footage put a bad perspective on them. Chelsea Manning was not intending on releasing the video footage to the public, but she felt that the American citizens should be more engaged in the war. After being released from military prison, Chelsea Manning realized that some information is meant to be kept a secret and that she found herself while being in Iraq. By using the ethical tool deontology, Chelsea Manning wanted what was right for the American citizens and herself, but it turned out her actions put everybody in jeopardy.

The actions of Chelsea Manning was not an act out of loyalty for the United States, but she did it out of intentions to look out for fellow American citizens. Chelsea Manning wanted to bring justice to the dozen of unarmed citizens that were murdered by the US military. Chelsea Manning was not just making a commitment to the public, but to herself. Chelsea Manning joined the military to be more structured and to find her real identity as a transgender person. She wanted to be able to be openly identified as a woman with an adjusting life. Even though Chelsea Manning’s actions were wrongful to the United States, she acknowledged after her release that some things are meant to be kept a secret to not hurt the public. By relating to the concepts that are mentioned in both articles, Chelsea Manning could have done things differently. By using the ethical tool deontology, Chelsea Manning did an immoral action with good intentions though.