

# ISTE 110: Ethics in Computing

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## **Ethics in Information Technology**

Most computing companies and social networking companies have a code of ethics in the form of a privacy policy. The concept of ethics in society has been in the news recently for many reasons. We are organized under principles and values for the common goal of keeping society safe. Within that bigger picture, each individual must make ethical decisions.

“Ethics and ethical principles extend to all spheres of human activity. They apply to our dealings with each other, with animals and the environment. They should govern our interactions not only in conducting research but also in commerce and politics.”

## **What is ethics?**

Ethics is more than examining what is right versus what is wrong. A focal point is “the good life” and the right conduct in an idealistic society.

## **Ethics versus Morals**

**Ethics** are the principles and values a society deems as important to living “the right way” (societal perception).

**Morals** are the rules we create that support ethical standards. (Personal perception)

## **Law and Order**

In addition to ethics and morals, we have law and order applied to maintain those ethical standards. We are concerned with the intent, impact, and

outcomes of ethical behavior.

### **Why is this important?**

- Look at today's culture
- How we use technology
- Meshing of values at work, at home, and how we use technology
- How does this reconcile across generations?

Almost everything in our everyday lives is impacted by technology. Different age groups in our generations grew up with different values, ideals, and exposure to technology.

### **Group Presentation Topics**

Choose an information technology topic to present on in groups. Do not do the following:

- The Digital Divide
- The First and Fourth amendment
- Digital Privacy
- Cyberbullying

### **Brainstorm Topics**

- ~~Parental Monitoring~~
- ~~The Right to be Forgotten~~
- ~~Artificial Intelligence~~
- ~~Automation of Jobs~~
- ~~Internet Censorship~~
- ~~Whistleblowers~~

- Cryptocurrency
- ~~The Internet: Humanity's Greatest Experiment in Anarchy~~
- ~~Open Source Code Ownership/Attributions~~
- ~~Geographically Restricted Content~~
- Life Prioritization Routines in Autonomous Vehicles
- Combat Drones/Robots
- Social Media and its Interaction with Society
- NSA Monitoring
- Expansion of Genetic Technology

## Reminders and Homework

Remember to email [catherine.beaton@rit.edu](mailto:catherine.beaton@rit.edu) with the following:

Subject: ISTE 110 Team

Body:

Team Name

Team Members

Team Lead

Come with ideas next class for team contracts.

You can find all my notes at <http://omgimanerd.tech/notes>. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, feel free to contact me at [alvin@omgimanerd.tech](mailto:alvin@omgimanerd.tech)