

ISTE 110: Ethics in Computing

Alvin Lin

March 6th, 2017

The News in Real-Time

The News in Real-Time is a really big deal today. We are accessing information in such a fast and brief way that we only receive a splash of the event. A long time ago, we had to wait for news via newspapers, and it was usually a day late. Instant gratification is something we take for granted in news.

Good? Bad? Just plain ugly?

Is our instant gratification fed appropriately? Should it be? Have we become “media whores”?

Journalist Daniel Pearl was kidnapped by Pakistani terrorists and beheaded. The footage of the beheading was released to the public.

Technology and Trust

We Shall Never Forget 9/11 - The Kids Book of Freedom - A Graphic Coloring Book This children’s coloring book provides images of reports of 9/11 and the US killing Bin Laden for the purpose of teaching children.

Has our humor changed?

We print political cartoons in newspapers and distribute them on the web. Some people find them offensive, but the Internet has exacerbated this phenomenon.

John Stuart Mill

- Where does the authority of society begin?
- “Everyone who receives the protection of society owes a return for the benefit, and the fact of living in society renders it indispensable that each should be bound to observe a certain line of conduct towards the rest.”
- “The acts of an individual may be hurtful to others or wanting in due consideration for their welfare, without going to the length of violating any of their constitutional rights. The offender may then be justly punished by opinion, though not by law.”

- “As soon as any part of a person’s conduct affects prejudicially the interests of others, society has jurisdiction over it, and the question whether the general welfare will or will not be promoted by interfering with it becomes open to discussion.”
- “In all cases, there should be perfect freedom, legal and social, to do the action and stand the consequences.”
- John Stuart Mill’s conception of liberty involved freedom of people instead of state control.
- Utilitarianism - Greatest Happiness Principle

Where is society heading?

- “A civilization that can thus succumb to its vanquished enemy must first have become so degenerate that neither its appointed priests and teachers, not anybody else, has the capacity, or will take the trouble, to stand up for it.”
- Is THIS civilization?
- Where are we going in 2020?
- The transparency of people and organizations will increase, but that will not necessarily yield more personal integrity, social tolerance, or forgiveness.
- What has the Internet given us? What has it taken from us?
- Who is ethically responsible for the release of information without fact-checking?
- Does the internet facilitate revolution?

Reminders and Homework

Remember to submit your final paper outline on MyCourses.

You can find all my notes at <http://omgimanerd.tech/notes>. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact me at alvin@omgimanerd.tech