

What The Tech? - Week 3: Ethics and AI
Ethical Dilemma Small Group Activity

Names: _____

ETHICAL DILEMMA #1

A passenger arrives at the airport. They are told that policies have changed and people no longer have to wait in line to go through security. Instead, AI is being used to select individual passengers to be screened before they are able to board their flights. The selected individuals and their baggage are searched thoroughly based on the AI's recommendation.

1. What are the arguments that a person or group might make in support of **and** in opposition to this new policy?

2. Use your phone to look up examples of those people and/or groups.

3. How does your team feel about this scenario? Why? Is it unanimous or is there a difference of opinion?

4. What example(s), if any, of the ethical issues related to AI does your team potentially see here?

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ETHICAL DILEMMA #2

A person shows up to the emergency department at a hospital, clearly in distress. They are unable to communicate their symptoms to the staff, so the nurses examine them and input the patient's observable symptoms. AI is then used to determine the most likely causes of the patient's symptoms. Then the output from the AI is used for triage and determines how long the patient may have to wait to see a doctor.

1. What are the arguments that a person or group might make in support of **and** in opposition to this new hospital admissions policy?

2. Use your phone to look up examples of those people and/or groups.

3. How does your team feel about this scenario? Why? Is it unanimous or is there a difference of opinion?

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ETHICAL DILEMMA #3

A movie producer wants to create a sequel for his favorite movie from his childhood. However, the main actor died 20 years ago, shortly after the original film was released. The producer wants to use new technology to imitate the deceased actor's image and voice so that the new movie maintains continuity

1. What are the arguments that a person or group might make in support of **and** in opposition to this new policy?

2. Use your phone to look up examples of those people and/or groups.

3. How does your team feel about this scenario? Why? Is it unanimous or is there a difference of opinion?

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ETHICAL DILEMMA #4

A landlord has begun to use new technology to set rental prices for their property. They input private information about the property like the current rental price, vacancy rates, and lease terms. Then the software uses AI to output a recommendation for a price that maximizes the building's revenue. In calculating a recommendation, the software takes into consideration the landlord's input, the information from other landlords using the software, and public data such as square footage and numbers of bedrooms and bathrooms.

1. What are the arguments that a person or group might make in support of **and** in opposition to this software and its usage?

2. Use your phone to look up examples of those people and/or groups.

3. How does your team feel about this scenario? Why? Is it unanimous or is there a difference of opinion?

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ETHICAL DILEMMA #5

A patient at the East Texas cancer center had gone for his usual treatment session for a tumor on his back (his ninth), only for him to feel a massive electric shock through his arm, as if his arm was torn off. Instead of receiving his normal radiation dose, a system malfunction caused the machine to deliver a massive radiation dose between 91 to 139 times higher! This was due to programming errors using AI. As a result, the patient experienced paralysis, inflammation of the spinal cord and other health issues. He died about five months later. Similar incidents happened with five other cancer patients at different treatment centers using the same radiation machine, between 1985 to 1987. Four of these patients die, leaving 2 others with lifelong injuries from the overdose.

1. What are the arguments that a person or group might make in support of **and** in opposition to the use of this treatment method?

2. Use your phone to look up examples of those people and/or groups.

3. How does your team feel about this scenario? Why? Is it unanimous or is there a difference of opinion?

4. What example(s), if any, are there of the ethical issues related to AI does your team potentially see here?

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ETHICAL DILEMMA #6

From last week's workshop, we got to understand that AI learns from historical data. Now a highly qualified job applicant applies for a job and gets screened out by the AI resume screening tool used by the hiring department because their resume doesn't match one of the programmed formats or when their valuable skills are possibly not captured in the resume. Recent statistics show that 88% of employers believe that they are losing out on highly qualified candidates who are screened out in hiring processes by AI tracking systems.

1. What are the arguments that a person or group might make in support of **and** in opposition to this new policy?

2. Use your phone to look up examples of those people and/or groups.

3. How does your team feel about this scenario? Why? Is it unanimous or is there a difference of opinion?

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ETHICAL DILEMMA #7

In 2016, the driver of a self-driving car was killed in his car after his vehicle crashed into a tractor in Florida while operating on its autopilot mode. Again in 2018, a self-driving uber vehicle was involved in a fatal collision killing a pedestrian, and in 2019, two people were killed in California when a self-driving vehicle on autopilot ran on a red light and collided with another vehicle. One question comes to mind here, what if a fully autonomous vehicle (which is prone to hackers) is being hacked by a cyber criminal to carry out an accident with the aim of implicating the driver? Who would be responsible for the accident here? Would it be the cyber criminal, the driver, or the car programmer/manufacturer?

1. What are the arguments that a person or group might make in support of **and** in opposition to who gets assigned blame?

2. Use your phone to look up examples of those people and/or groups.

3. How does your team feel about this scenario? Why? Is it unanimous or is there a difference of opinion?

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ETHICAL DILEMMA #8

The ShotSpotter, a surveillance technology placed in predominantly Black/Hispanic and low-income communities (as identified by a leaked map released earlier this year- which constitutes another AI bias), led to multiple instances of wrongful detainment and unfounded charges. The wrong conviction of Michael Williams due to algorithmic inaccuracies of data extracted from the ShotSpotter gunshot detection technology in 2021 represents a great example. Michael Williams, who was 63 at the time, spent nearly a year in jail after CPD officers falsely accused him of murder based on an unreliable shot spotter alert.

1. What are the arguments that a person or group might make in support of **and** in opposition to the use of this technology?

2. Use your phone to look up examples of those people and/or groups.

3. How does your team feel about this scenario? Why? Is it unanimous or is there a difference of opinion?

4. What example(s), if any, are there of the ethical issues related to AI does your team potentially see here?
