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Abstract In recent years, the IT ethics has exploded in both volume and importance due to ethical beliefs and decision-making. This will explore the problems and ethical conflicts that might come across in an IT-based working place and would provide readers ways of how to avoid having unethical behavior and methods of ethical analysis and also how to face ethical dilemmas with the help of using the code of ethics whenever needed. It would also talk about topics such as data protection and privacy, cloud computing, computer security, data monitoring, software piracy, social consequences and ethical behavior. In addition, providing acts which are not morally right to do and ways of helping both parties which would be in conflict.

Keywords Data protection and privacy, cloud computing, IT ethics, software piracy, data monitoring, Literature review Computer ethics Moore suggested that the study of computer ethics is needed because there is a vacuum of policies surrounding the new possibilities. He defines computer ethics as the analysis of the nature and social impact of computer technology and the corresponding formulation and justification of policies for the ethical use of such a technology. Ethical theories provide categories and procedures for determining what is ethically relevant. There are various avenues of ethical reasoning. Modern ethical theory can be divided into two broad categories: teleological and deontological. Teleological ethical theories focus primarily on the consequences, results, ends, goals or purposes of agent acts.

They give priority to the good over the right, and they evaluate actions by the goal or consequences that they attain. Utilitarianism, a form of consequentialism, a theory predicted on the assumption that consequences

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determine the rightness or wrongness of moral actions is an example of teleological approach to ethics. Deontological ethical theories center on the act taken by the agent and the duties, rights, privileges or responsibilities that pertain to that act.

According to a deontological framework, actions are intrinsically right or wrong regardless of the consequences they produce. Deontological theories include both duty-based and rights-based approaches to ethical reasoning, sometimes referred to as pluralism or contractarianism respectively. The fundamental difference between the two is that deontological perspectives focus on the specific actions or behaviors of an individual while teleological perspectives focus on the consequences of the actions. (McCarthy et al., 2005) Data protection and privacy Personal privacy and the protection of personal identifying information are of concern to all of us.

Innumerable articles and conferences address our loss of privacy, either through the sale of consumer databases or our own inattention.

Opinions vary from "You have no privacy; get over it" to "This is the end of civil liberties as we know them. We teach people to safely maneuver on the Internet and minimize their exposure to bogus sites set up to steal their identity, warn users about the dangers of phishing and posting personal information on social network sites, use firewalls to protect our databases, and enact laws such as the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) to protect information. However, what are the data custodians doing with the information in their possession? In addition, what about the companies that are mining the vast stores of raw data that are just waiting to be converted to <https://assignbuster.com/abstract-are-various-avenues-of-ethical-reasoning-modern/>

knowledge? Exploring this topic is the raison d'être of this book, written by a financial reporter for the Washington Post. (Kessler, 2007) (George E.

Higgins, 2006) Cloud computing Though an evolving paradigm, genomic cloud computing can be defined as a scalable service where genetic sequence information is stored and processed virtually (i. e., in the ' cloud') usually via networked, large-scale data centers accessible remotely through various clients and platforms over the Internet.

Rather than buying more servers for the local research site, as was done in the past, genomic cloud computing allows researchers to use techniques, such as application programming interfaces (APIs) to launch servers. These may run on specific clouds provided by cloud service providers (CSPs). According to Edward S. Dove, " One of the greatest concerns about storing genomic data in the cloud is whether the data are secure. Researchers may fear that storing data on the cloud will lead to unauthorized access to patient data and liability and reputation damage that could result from a mandatory breach notification, such as that stipulated in HIPAA. Even though genomic data stripped of identifiers (including names, addresses, birth dates and the like) may not constitute ' personal health information' for HIPAA or other similar health information privacy law purposes, recent literature suggests that this could well change".

Consequently, researchers have reason to seriously consider the security issues of genomic cloud computing and the role of privacy laws. (Edward S. Dove, 2015) Data security and confidentiality on a structural level, there is a contrast between the nature of cloud computing, built on the idea of '

locationlessness' (or at least disparate localization), and data privacy laws, which are still based on geographic borders and location-specific data processing systems. As a cloud, computing is largely built on the idea of seamless, borderless sharing and storage of data, it can run into tension with different national jurisdictions governing citizens' rights over privacy and protection of personal data. Indeed, as cloud computing enables personal (health) data to be transferred across national, regional and/or provincial borders, where little consensus exists about which authorities have jurisdiction over the data, cloud clients and providers will each need to understand and comply with the different rules in place—to the extent such rules exist. In an environment where data exchange by researchers is no longer a point-to-point transaction within one country but instead is characterized by transnational, dynamic and decentralized flow, the legal distinction between national and international data use may become less meaningful than in the past.

(Edward S Dove, 2015) Data monitoring Control issues arise in Terms of Services sections pertaining to data monitoring. Can the CSP monitor hosted genomic data, and if so, what form should the monitoring take and what conditions should apply. Even though most commercial CSPs encrypt data while in transit and at rest, researchers should still verify that the data are encrypted (and find out how they are encrypted). Additionally, if it is researchers that encrypt the data, they should query whether they want the CSP to have access to decryption keys. Although monitoring of traffic data or bandwidth consumption may be acceptable, researchers could be concerned with a CSP monitoring personal data or aggregate genomic data uploaded to

the cloud, even if such monitoring is to ensure compliance with an accepted use policy. (Edward S Dove, 2015) Software piracy Software piracy is an important emerging crime that criminologists need to research. Specifically, given that software piracy can lead to prison sentences and/or fines, that it is actively being prosecuted, and that it has several different layers of financial costs, the behavior is a substantial problem in need of deterrence.

Sherizen (1995) remarked that: there is a need for information security criminal justice practitioners to determine how best to change the existing perceptions regarding the risks of getting caught in computer crime activities including software piracy as well as the perceived payoffs of such activities. Early and contemporary software piracy research attempted to profile the collegiate software pirate. Such research indicated that college students are ripe for software piracy because: they were never told what was and was not expected of them with respect to hardware and software use, they were not acquainted with the law, and they were generally confronted with ethical issues (Cook, 1986, 1987). The BSA (2003) supported most of these views from Cook (1986, 1987), and showed that most students did not believe that current university policies about unlicensed software were effective. Hinduja (2003) also supported the view of Cook (1986, 1987) that college students were faced with ethical issues and decisions, and suggested that software pirates were likely to participate in other forms of unethical behavior such as academic dishonesty. (George E.

Higgins, 2006) Conclusion In conclusion to this essay unethical behaviors are varied and different from industry to industry and IT industry being the <https://assignbuster.com/abstract-are-various-avenues-of-ethical-reasoning-modern/>

spotlight in the current century makes it more prominent to the current world. Although employees are the center of most businesses these behaviors affect them or happen because of them in a close context. This behavior may differ from the ethical and legality aspect of any business organization. And hence while recruiting and employee therepercussions of such behaviors has to be stated beforehand and this way the person doing it and the person witnessing it can be aware of it and avoid them in the near future. Lastly business ethical issues will always exist in an organization and the key to overcome these successfully is to provide proper training to the employees on ethics and to have a favorable relationship with them in order to uplift the ethical behavior of the work place. 1515

words

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