

# Ethical Issues



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- How should one teach ethics in such a course?

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  - What if the government has explicit legal backing for their request?
  - What if the request comes from your boss?

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- Should suspected criminals be allowed to hide their data?
- What if the “government-only” proviso couldn't be implemented?
- What if the choice is between
  - ① Back doors in encryption systems?
  - ② Back doors in software?
  - ③ Government hacking?

- Is it proper to monitor other people's Internet traffic and computer use to see if they've been hacked?
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- If consent is sought, would it really be voluntary?

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- What if lives are at stake?
- What if it's only money?

- By whom? Governments? Victims? Vendors? Vigilantes?
- What is an acceptable goal?
  - Botnet takeover for neutralization?
  - Disinfect machines?
  - Gather evidence?
  - Deter attackers?

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- What if attribution isn't certain? What if innocent victims' computers are used to launch the attack you're responding to?

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- Or does it teach attackers what to do?
- Should "bug bounty" programs, where vendors reward researchers who find holes, include non-disclosure agreements (NDAs)?

# Questions?



(Eastern towhee, Central Park, October 12, 2019)