Reasoning with Ethics

A Project of The School for Ethical Education | www.ethicsed.org

"Ethics in action creates character."

Use this blog to:

1. Lead class discussions in social studies, civics, ethics or advisory classes.

2. Teach students skills to analyze cases with core values.

3. Recognize skills in support of the four components of ethical functioning.

Visit the online Ethics Blog.

CIA and WikiLeaks
News outlets are speculating that CIA contractors are responsible for the recent dump of secret CIA practices onto WikiLeaks. Information on CIA capability and practices to hack various phone, tablet and computer systems as current as 2016 has led some to conclude that the CIA protocols had become distributed to as many a 1500 individuals that included CIA contractors.

CNBC quotes WikiLeaks in a press release that states, "The CIA had lost control of an archive of hacking methods and it appeared to have been circulated among former U.S. government hackers and contractors in an unauthorized manner, one of whom has provided WikiLeaks with portions of the archive."

This is clearly a breach of CIA rules and law and government statements note anyone caught in such an act with be prosecuted with accountability to federal laws.

SEE poses ethical questions to students. If you worked for the CIA as an employee or contractor, is there ever an ethical justification to violate the law and release classified information? What core values would support that type of action? This presupposes that the person in this position recognizes no ethical and legal remedy to address the concerns they have with the information they are responsible to keep classified. Any "leaker" must first clearly see no possible way to utilize ethical and legal "whistle-blower" procedures.

Regarding the questions in this case, SEE welcomes students to post their response on our website at http://bit.ly/Ethics_Case where more information and a CBS news video link is available in support of *Reasoning with Ethics*.

Contact information
The School for Ethical Education is a not for profit teaching agency in Milford, CT with the mission to advance strategies of placing ethics in action to create character. As a non-sectarian 501(C)3, SEE is supported by fees for service, grants and donations. For more information visit our website at www.ethicsed.org
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