

# Panoramic View of Cyber Ethics

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## Abstract

The entire world in Cyber space can be referred as a common place under one umbrella. The diverse form of ideas, belief, lexis, views, ethnicity, custom & way of life flow from one place to the other at the click of a mouse. This freedom of voluminous exchange at such a fast pace cannot be left unattended. The entire gamut of exchange of ideas, belief, lexis, views, ethnicity, custom & way of life in real and virtual world necessitates the need for Cyber Ethics.

Cyber ethics refers to the rules set out for responsible behavior in cyberspace. It explores the guideline for online conduct that influences the social, political, legal and business affairs. This study attempts to explore cyber ethics from different perspectives of user intent, accuracy, and transparency etc.

**Keywords:** Cyberspace, freedom, voluminous exchange, cyber ethics

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## Introduction

The cyber world today has become analogous form of being and existing. People are now able to do things which were not conceivable in the recent past. It is becoming a way of life for millions of people because of emergent reliance of the mankind on this technology. Internet has facilitated the use of website communiqué and an assortment of IT solutions for the convenience of the individuals readily available. Internet, though propose immense advantage to the general public, also unbolt prospect for felony using novel and extremely refined technology paraphernalia.

Websites and e-mail being the preferred means of communication compel organizations to provide Internet access to their people. This leads to instantaneous trade and transmission of data, metaphors and array of substance. This includes not only requisite useful material but also information that may be detrimental or disruptive. Usual anecdotes featuring in the media on mainframe crime include matter covering hacking to viruses, sometimes precisely revealing events, at times misconceiving the responsibility of know-how in such activities. The acknowledged radical

environment of the internet contributes to the complexity of pragmatically tackling issues concerning the ethical connotations of internet know-how.

Ethics are abandoned in the view of perfectionism and accountability (as free moral agent, individuals, organizations, and societies are responsible for the actions that they take and shall be held accountable to others for the consequences of their actions). In most cultures, law lays the foundation for the considerable ethical values and endow with a system for holding community, business, and government answerable.

Definition of Information Ethics contain the moral predicament and ethical inconsistency that arise in exchanges between human beings and information (construction, organization, propagation, and apply), information and communications technologies (ICTs), and information systems[2]. Cyber ethics (information and communication ethics) vary from the rest and entail a unique consideration as we use technologies to correspond within ,cyber world that occur within the mainframe network, a new observable fact that is not always well comprehended since the source for all the basic moral values are our primary institutions like family, peer group, school, religion etc. and these do not embody the virtual world.

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Cyber ethics is the philosophical study of moral codes pertaining to mainframe, encircling user conduct and what supercomputers are intended to perform and how this persuades people and society. Generally, issue of ethics communicate three arguments - (1) right to use internet technologies (2) access to information and (3) the impact of both technology and information upon distinctiveness and relationships. In assessing arguments with respect to each of these by virtue of evaluating it realistically, as to how communication technology interrupt the social, political and economic scenario of a country.

This paper assesses the ethical insinuation of the internet from a situation neither within existing argument or one that deduce the likelihood of probable concerns. Rather, in revealing the internet to a chronological investigation, it is expected we can more pragmatically understand what specifically new-fangled issues & concerns the internet entails, realize the pattern of existing calls for its ruling and, in the due course, appreciate the multifaceted inter linkages among innovative technologies, ethics and law.

## Understanding Cyber Culture

To split cyber culture writings into either of three concerns - technology, information or people is quite challenging. It is a harsh reality now that as individuals, as a culture we are now clinched to “techno bio clout” and as an effect, technology, information and identity are now indivisible constructs. In spite of how we, as individuals, may consider any of the cyber-technologies, the community we live in acknowledges the veracity of therapeutic and aesthetic implants, genetically-improved plant and animal species, the financial significance of towering technology businesses and the worth of their effective intellectual assets, the worldwide networking of communities, nations and humanity.

In this scenario, technology goes beyond the status of being a sheer contrivance or gadget. Technology

can turn out to be a vigorous contributor in its own application. Communication entails more than understanding the message. Information becomes unrestricted and adaptive within the constraints set by the technology. Distinctiveness is not bound by nature. Nature is amalgamated with the mechanism and its informatics.

Assessing cyber culture and its ethics by straightening out investigation into faction largely engrossed in technology or information or distinctiveness is, not only lessening but also irreconcilable with the essential assertion of cyber culture. However, from the viewpoint of where issues of ethics interconnect with matter of law, this kind of grouping makes sense. Questioning the state of affairs of access to internet technologies generally traverse with concern of public policy, the universal infrastructure, social equality, government administration and private regulation. Some of the major concerns often seems obvious but generally ignored are: Who should have a right to use the internet, how, under what conditions and for what purpose? To what degree should producers of technology or contributor of technology based services be enforced to act in the civic interest? Who should institute the international standards and code of conduct that permit the Net to function, along with the defined terms? Is there a case for revolutionary purpose of technology to render or possibly restore power disparity? Apprehensions for the consequences of internet technologies on interpersonal relationships frequently interconnect with inquiry of unlawful act leading to personal damage or denigration. Can an internet user be responsible for harm caused to another in a “virtual” interface? To what level internet users are accountable for their own vulnerability.

Inquiry of ethics is by and large linked with subject of legal guidelines. By its characteristic lawful directive is a conservative force. At the same time as it is essential that law holds an amount of suppleness to deal with the distinctive and the strange, in presuming its own rationality, and sets restrictions to its capacity to accommodate the unforeseen. Law

can act in response to contemporary approach and, in that way, attempt to broaden it.

However fit this strategy is implemented, the disparity will be there. The lawful “decision” of a entirely unexpected trouble is based upon a discerning, re-elucidation of permissible lingo and an apprehensive relocation of legal liberty, language and category. Legal meaning remains under a high degree of stress, and its extension and capacity to regulate the novel circumstances dubious. In this milieu new ethical dialogue propagate, in addition to nominal legal ones [15].

Law is a conformist power not merely for the reason that it’s conventional power, but since legal supremacy challenge transformation. Law all the time redefines existing progress in its own stipulations. This implies that in spite of how radical the internet is, and how unsuitable the function of existing legal processes, the internet will carry on to be reviewed by and in the course of these laws or re-embodiment of them. Consequently discussing the ethical inference of the internet in conditions of recent dogmatic preparations is also suitable. Relatively this approach can help identify the limitations to legal advancement and show the way to an appraisal of the role of ethics in such a situation.

### **Access to Internet Technologies**

The subject matter of the right to access technology is a concern that raises issue of parity within nation and between national boundaries. It further entails, responsibility for mounting telecommunications network, the cost of strategy and services that connect persons to the network, the level of technological proficiency required as a corollary of the blueprint of the devices and services, and the accessibility of a culture that allows individuals to join and apply these technologies.

The point here in relation to our existing apprehensions with ethics and the internet is, the right to access technology needs to be measured in the context of the political surroundings and

regulatory practices. The political expression commonly supports the opinion that access to internet should preferably be democratic. Nevertheless, the internet is not an object: it is the complex combination of the (impending) interconnection between numerous computers positioned around the globe.

Since, “internet market” does not exist, no possibility of a democratic “right” to access it or any other sort of overriding “internet ethic” can emerge. It can be inferred that the outcome of the regime formation processes that coincide with technical change are not determined in a straightforward way by the power exercised by dominant industry or by the power of State.

There is a need for universal delivery service model that would necessitate non-discriminatory access to the vital hardware, software, services and internet expertise.

### **Regulatory Concerns**

Historically telecommunications regulation has been seen as separate from regulation of computer hardware, software and services, the regulation of access to these other things is generally treated separately to that of the internet infrastructure. Technologies must converge in order to make the internet function, but from a regulatory point of view they can be disconnected and treated separately. This means that even where a policy of a democratic right to access telecommunications infrastructure to be adopted, it would not result in equal access unless there were a corresponding obligation to provide access to all of the other essential components. As, subsidized access to the infrastructure would need to be coupled with subsidized access to properly maintained computers and technical assistance in order for the “right” to access internet technology to be meaningful.

In the aggressive surroundings of large conglomerates there is no pragmatic likelihood of developing an industry ethic. But individuals, business houses and institutions are not prohibited

from developing or implementing their own ethic. Competitiveness does not obliterate buoyant ethical discussion about the internet, rather it stimulates this culture.

There is a need to think about ethics, but at the same time there is also the opportunity to not think about them or to think about ethics differently. It can be argued that because people can access the Net too easily & cheaply, they are encouraged to consume greedily while thinking that their actions have little effect on the overall performance of the Internet.

The technology requirements of the underprivileged are constructed in the same terms as the 'needs' of patron, manufacturer and existing customers of technology products and services. The recognition of 'information affluent' and 'information deprived' society is not clubbed by any sense of obligation toward the probable technology inventor and users who will inexorably be hindered from significant involvement in this novel field of autonomy by market dynamics.

Strategies that apparently reach out to the underprivileged do not include any widespread ethic of a right to equal access to internet technology. Disparity of access is a result of the approval of 'the market' as the delivery strategy for the internet.

It is incorrect to deduce a decisively held promise to superior morals in one and all that defend their actions in the name of the ineligible. Some would argue, perhaps, that such advanced technologies may not, after all, be of interest or indeed necessity to certain sections of society or regions of the world. Such arguments, however, only underline a tendency not only to create and perpetuate under classes, but also to assume a liberal right to speak for such constituencies. Aptly quoted "Clearly, for billions of people around the world, cyberspace and connectivity are not a priority, but surely, a technology as versatile and increasingly domineering as that of cyber communication holds inevitable possibilities, and consequences, for not just the minority that presently accesses and controls it, but for many others, too" [12].

"To be a leader in the digital economy of the 21st century, India must invest in basic infrastructure, education and information technology," said Gates in a speech to the Confederation of Indian Industry. "These are the tools which will drive the country into the future and make India an economic and software superpower".

### **Access to Information**

The information wants to be free slogan is most frequently linked with John Perry Barlow and his argument of what your rights should be on the "electronic frontier". His apprehension for right to use information imagined a broader right of access to internet technologies. However even as the earlier is seen as stimulating and unpredictable issue, the later is hardly mentioned. If the liberated flow of information on the network is so vital the right to access internet technologies is equally crucial.

On the electronic edge the positions of writer, reader and matter amalgamate. This interrupts the spatial and worldly presumptions that have conventionally demarcated and alienated the permissible rights and responsibility of original author, content, publisher, distributor and user.

The internet entail individuals and organizations who, while implementing the prospective new technologies, have created new group of people, associations, distinctiveness, actions, means and market. When information is freely available it is unethical to impose laws deliberated for a diverse technological era. An unusual technological period warrants a special legal and ethical conduct. The trepidation is that without appreciation of this, verve online will be quenched and budding technological and intellectual advancements will be disheartened. Intellectual property laws do not "fit in" in cyberspace and in array to impose them a new world-wide administration of parameter and control has to be developed, which will impede with the natural "anarchy" of the internet and alter the free will of those who have access.

It is intricate to delineate the ethic following this situation more optimistically. Ethics at this juncture

emerge in the pretext of a collective mind-set in the direction of the internet and online commotion, rather than as main beliefs that steer or initiate action. Critics such as Lehman draw attention to this, and infer from it that the information wants to be free position is of little practical guiding force in “the real world”. However this dismissive attitude is unwarranted. The real situation is more complicated.

The crude similes used to illustrate the internet and its potential hint that the core frenzied bond of humans and technology has led to order, stability and progress. No single entity or association can control it. In such circumstances there is no sense in positing universal cyber ethics. What should amount to cyber ethics will largely depend on the time, space, people and circumstance. Faith in human-centered technological progress and inhuman capacity to develop appropriate ethics, underpins these organic analyses.

Notwithstanding the intensity of influence on the Net, individuals and society still think that they can sway the internet’s progress. Mediation in this be likely to unite fastidious issues, cases and measures unfavorable to the augmentation of online spirit. Ethics are made observable in the milieu of a response to a particular dilemma, and in the perspective of the catchphrase used to announce the concern.

The veracity that ethics are tethered to political basis and used and ill-treated in endeavor to win open commiseration also has extensive preference.

### **Distinctiveness and Relationships**

In this fantasy sphere where real world regulations are seen as irrelevant & rendezvous with the ethical connotation of virtual associations has led to the conception of a structure that impersonate a known political and permissible environment: a virtual public area where ethical reaction can be deliberated and pronouncement properly accomplished, according to the requirement.

The intrusion can be deduced as a denial to connect in an ethical discussion as regards to the finest good

of the online society and the rights of individuals who carve up internet admittance. Operators can also shun ethical dialogue by taking a docile stand, parting those who argue to be anguish persecution or exploitation to their own strategy, repudiate to offer technological help or other mechanisms for resolving disputes. Compliance can often be vindicated by an indiscriminate plea to the open dialogue or the confidentiality rights of users. Even as it is open to users to relocate to more affable service contributor and/or internet society.

Where the ethics of such circumstances are not dealt with on the spot, it is imperative to deem the role played by more customary, potent controller, such as national policing agency. Generally such associations become implicated on a discerning basis. For all the rhetoric about the democracy of the internet, there are no “real” rights for citizens of cyberspace, apart from those granted by and to members of virtual communities with an interest in enabling ethical conduct.

It will not be right, however to articulate that all set of laws are not viable in cyberspace. Although due to questions of influence and divergence of laws, there is ongoing stress to synchronize laws that have bearing on global business. In reinventing the souk for and in cyberspace, it is acknowledged that there are key tribulations in reframing laws.

The potential for law restructuring have to be well thought-out with respect to specific background of the concerned internet technologies and in the milieu of the record of the advances of the assorted legal categories involved. Some laws can integrate the shifting temperament, spatiality, epitome and prejudices of cyberspace technologies better than others.

At the same time, in the dearth of feasible set of laws and befitting policy-makers for cyberspace ethics take on passionate substance. Their significance derives from their status as outcomes of a budding, relative progression of community pattern, not from their status as law or non representational rules of approved actions.

## Conclusion

Cyber ethics is a vibrant and multifaceted field of study which reflects the interaction among beliefs, assumptions, thoughts, ideas, values, facts and laws with regard to relentlessly shifting computer technology. There can be diminutive suspicion that information processing today is much faster, lithe, retrieved and exhibited than ever before in the past. The upcoming technology has paved way for not only new opportunities but associated risks as well. Although it is an influential and confrontational form of communication but unfortunately cyber space is still not in its settled

shape and thus is being considered as the uncultivated. It is beyond doubt that the cyber world can be used to mark varied achievements in almost every sphere of our life. At the same time, it cannot be used and abused ruthlessly to over regulate the freedom of technology. There is a need for globally acknowledging the need for due and diligent enforcement of existing laws and working towards the uniform international laws pertaining to cyber world. Cyber Ethics encompass all the existing laws along with the varied moral commandments of different individuals, organizations and cultures.

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