

Homework 2: Ethical Theories

CMSC/MATH 350

Fall 2015

Due: Wednesday, Sept. 23 by 4:00pm (beginning of class)

Name: _____

Read Chapter 2. Do problems 3,4,8,9, and 17 from P. 100 of the book.

Then consider the following ethical scenario and answer the questions below:

Child Pornography

“Erin Green, a system administrator for the Acme Corporation, is installing a new software package on the office computer used by employee Chuck Dennis. The company has not authorized Erin to read other people's emails, Web logs, or personal files. However, in the course of installing the software, Erin accidentally comes across directories on Dennis' computer containing files with suspicious-looking names. Erin opens a few of the files and discovers they contain child pornography. Erin believes possessing such images is against federal law. What should Erin do?”

(Source: Michael Quinn, Ethics for the Information Age 5th Edition, Page 422)

1. Would a Subjective Relativist say that Chuck had done anything wrong?
2. Would a Subjective Relativist say that Erin had done anything wrong?
3. Would a Divine Command Theorist say that Chuck had done anything wrong (you may choose any god/gods and any scripture/tradition/rituaton long as you tell me what they are)?
4. Would a Divine Command Theorist say that Erin ha done anything wrong (same assumptions as question 3)?
5. Would an Ethical Egoist say that Chuck had done anything wrong?
6. Would an Ethical Egoist say that Erin had done anything wrong?