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Ethics and AI

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Ethics and AI

People have reservations about the development of artificial intelligence because it is viewed as disastrous to the human race. Companies like Google are at the center of artificial intelligence, with new technologies being launched regularly. When I am done with my studies at SFSU, one of the companies I would not consider working for is Google. Though the company offers its employees better working conditions and enormous benefits, I think working with google as a coding expert is unethical.

For instance, the digital space has greatly widened. The methods of data collection and storage are moving towards digitization as our lives become more digitized. In addition, most of the data is interlinked via the internet and there are sensory technologies that generate data about different aspects of our lives. As a coding expert, I will be tasked with creating artificial intelligence technologies that gather data about search history, hence coming up with predictions that match our previous internet preferences, which go against the ACM code of ethics. For instance, according to the ACM code of ethics, computing professionals must consider whether the outcome of their efforts will, among other things, respect diversity, privacy and will be used in a socially responsible way (Association of Computing Machinery (ACM), n.d). As a coding expert, I would not want my effort to determine or generate a suggestion for internet users, based on data collected about them without their knowledge, using technology that I participated in developing.

Besides, artificial intelligence technologies are unfair and discriminatory. For instance, coding experts work on artificial intelligence technologies like facial recognition software, which can aid the authorities in identifying an individual, leading to their profiling, among other negative outcomes. The result is victimization based on technology that people do not even

understand. Furthermore, such technologies discriminate because they focus on a specific category of individuals. In addition to that, one of the principles highlighted under the ACM code of ethics is that computing specialists should be and take action not to victimize minority groups (Association of Computing Machinery (ACM), n.d.). Suppose I work on a technology that selects a certain category of individuals from within a larger population in a discriminatory manner. In that case, I will be going against the ACM code of ethics. Hence a coding work with google is unethical.

In conclusion, one of the ethical considerations in artificial intelligence involves respecting privacy. Privacy involves people having the freedom to do what they like without their actions being revealed by unauthorized entities. Respect for privacy is also highlighted under the ACM code of ethics because technology enables collecting, monitoring, and exchanging information between parties promptly. Furthermore, privacy in the computing world is wide. In this perspective, there is a thin line between the use of personal information and measures that must be adopted to ensure that private information is used for the correct purposes. As a coding expert, I might find myself crossing this line, so I think it is unethical to take up a coding position with Google.

Reference

Association of Computing Machinery (ACM). (N.D). ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct. Association for Computing Machinery. <https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics>

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