

Name

Jamie Cropley

P Number

P15188432

Reading of the week A set of ethical principles for design science research in information systems

Briefly note down your responses to the answers, which can be in paragraphs or bullet points. But be prepared to elaborate and share them with the class.

What are the key ideas of the paper? Or what key messages are presented by the author(s)?

- Many different areas of society recognise a need for ethical principles.
- The paper attempts to initiate a debate about needing ethical principles in Design Science Research in Information Systems.
- The paper attempts to design such principles but then points out the weaknesses of them therefore narrowing them down to something more usable generally.

What evidence or method, if any, is used to support the main argument of the paper?

- Numbered referencing throughout and at the end of the paper.
- The main argument was to propose developed ethical principles and debate how they can relate to DSR in IS the referencing as mentioned above was mainly used to support the main argument.

Do you agree or disagree with what is being said? Why? Or what are your comments on the argument presented by the author(s).

- I find it hard to disagree with most of the points made by the author in this paper because I believe that Information Systems and as indicated in the paper can apply to many different areas of society, where one prevalent example of this could be surveillance where it could invade people's rights to privacy.
- I believe most of the ethical principles stipulated throughout the paper raised more questions than answer especially in Table 1 for 2.1. Mason's ethical principles
- I did not find that most of the ethical principles were technologically orientated enough and that when some of them tried to explain this, they only hinted on the technology and never fully explained how such principles could fully work with it, for example, especially in part 2.3 of the paper.
- In 2.5 it is admitted in a negative context that there are some weaknesses with the principles specified.

Name

P Number

- They stress in the conclusion of part 5 of the paper that the paper suggests a set of ethical principles and it is not something definite, where in part 3 they try to narrow these down into something more amicable I found this to be something more clear cut that I could agree with.

How can you relate points made by the author(s) to reality? Any examples?

- The Information System utilised in my old place of work was not designed very well at all, numerous parts of the system failed on a daily basis, and such awkward problems in the system had to be awkwardly learnt, additionally you were blamed and had to take responsibility for any data type errors if the system caused them. To solve these system issues were basically a structure of a large corporate type of bureaucracy you had to go through consisting of many levels that never usually went further up the chain than a few managers before the Information System improvements were destroyed. Relating to the paper especially section 2.3 I believe this stuck out to me as something highly valuable across the majority of Information Systems and when such Software Engineers design such things, 3. *PRODUCT—software engineers shall ensure that their products and related modifications meet the highest professional standards possible.* If this was highly considered in the original design of the software it would of cost my company less and made employees lives easier. I can relate this principle in particular the most throughout the paper because it would of been the most beneficial in terms of prevention of problems to myself and others. I believe this also relates to many other factors of society from cash machines glitching to transportation errors, the list is possibly endless in that respect therefore with software pretty much at the core of our society outlining specific principles that software engineers have to adhere to would prove highly beneficial to society as a whole overall.