SOCIAL MEDIA ETHICS

In recent years the number of people engaging with social media has exploded. Social medIa platforms are now utilised as key locations for networking, socialising and importantly, for reflecting on all aspects of everyday life.

The growing use of social networks as a daily activity has led to the emergence of ethical concerns related to the management of data shared by users, their privacy, as well as decision making in this digital ecosystem.
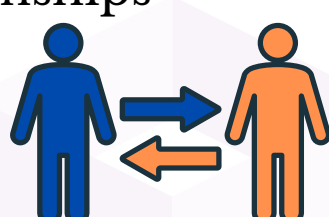
The nature of socIal medIa makes communIcatIon accessIble to a broader publIc.

Once information becomes public, the way it is used is no longer under the moderator's control. This fundamental dilemma is at the heart of the ethical debate, from which several other ethical issues evolve.

ETHICAL QUESTIONS CAN BE CATEGORIZED ACCORDING TO 5 PRIMARY CRITERIA:

I Who is viewing the social media information

II How is the social media information accessed

III For what purpose is the social information used

IV What are the criteria one uses for making judgments about social media information

V What is the nature of "relationships" in social media

HERE ARE SOME IMPORTANT THINGS RELATED ETHICS IN USING SOCIAL MEDIA:
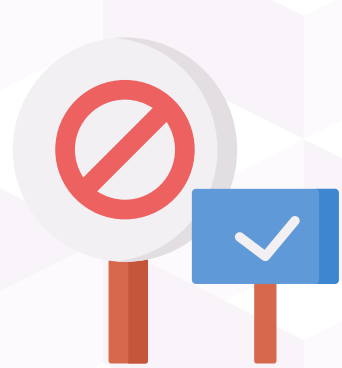
I Ethics in Communication

In most cases, ethics are ignored when communicating via social media. The user and creator should use the right language when he/she communicates with someone on social media. The communication should be honest and in open manner. Truth is an ethical value that other people respect.

II Avoid Spreading race, pornography and violence issues

It would be wise if we do not spread information relates certain race or religion. Share useful information only and avoid conflict to others and uploading violent photos such as traffic accident photo or other violent images.

III Check the news validity

Social media users should be more intelligent in capture any information. Before you share the news, it will be wiser to check the news validity first.

IV Appreciate other's works

When sharing information in the form of photographs, writings or videos which belong to others, make sure to mention the source to show your appreciation to other's works.

V Do not share personal information too much

It would be wiser for you to restrict your personal life in using social media. Do not share your personal information such as phone number or home address.