

SENG4921 Professional Issues and Ethics

Assignment 3

13th May 2003

Due date: **Friday 13th June**

Changed marking scheme

In order to reduce the assignment load this assignment has been cut from the intended three questions to two questions. But this assignment will still be worth the advertised 20 marks. This yields a change from our intended assignment format, but no deviation from the advertised assessment scheme.

This assignment represents a culmination of many of the things that have been studied and discussed this session. It requires a study of two papers:

1. *How Good is Good Enough?*, by W. Robert Collins, et al.
2. *When Professional Standards are Lax: The CONFIRM Failure and its Lessons*, by Effy Oz.

and you will need other knowledge of *The Case of the Killer Robot*.

You may reference other papers and you should cite all references.

The assignment consists of 2 questions, which you should answer in 1200 words maximum for each question.

Question 1 max length 1200 words

Analyse the Killer Robot Case according to the Ethical Theory described in the paper by Collins, *How Good is Good Enough?*. Identify the parties in the Killer Robot story according to Collins' analysis and discuss how the parties were in breach or in accord with the obligations given in his theory.[†]

Question 2 max length 1200 words

Similarly, summarise the problems in the CONFIRM case according to Collins' theory, or any other professional or ethical theories.

[†] *penumbra* means *in the shadow of*, hence "all those affected by".

Formatting: A title page must be stapled to the assignment pages, this must include Course Id and Name, Assignment Details, Student Number and Name, Workshop ID/Day and Time as well as Facilitator's name. Reports must be presented in a format suitable for senior management (i.e. suitable layout, no spelling and grammatical errors).

Maximum length is 1200 words for each question (approximately 2–2.5 pages). *Parts of reports which exceed the maximum length may be ignored.* You should include references to the sources of your information, and a bibliography at the end of your assignment. References cited in the text of your assignment should be included in the bibliography with sufficient detail to enable the reader to go directly to the relevant material e.g. Jones and Smith "Ethics in IT: an oxymoron?" MISQ Vol. 23, No 2, Pages 23–34, a specific page in a textbook reference or a specific Internet site (include the URL). The bibliography is not included in the word count.