

# Behavior When in Authority

CS103F: Ethical Foundations of Computer Science

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# Discussion: Amazon

# Power Dynamics and Interactions

- Being in a position of authority inherently changes power dynamics
  - You are hired on as proctor for the class your significant other is taking
  - You receive a promotion and become your best friend's supervisor
- Being in a position of authority increases the need for ethical behavior and action
  - Your significant other asks you to help them with their code outside of regular office hours
  - You continue to go out to lunch with your best friend despite now being their supervisor

# iClicker Check-in

- Your significant other asks you to help them with their code outside of regular office hours
  - A (help them)
  - B (don't help them)
- Continue to go out to lunch with your best friend despite now being their supervisor
  - A (continue)
  - B (stop)

# How Should You Ensure Fair Treatment?

- What constitutes fair treatment of employees and customers?
- How can you balance your personal preferences and beliefs with professional interactions?
- If/when is it okay to make an exception for a particular employee or customer?

# How Should You Handle Privacy?

- What information about your employees and customers should remain private?
- What is okay to share?
- What must you share?

# Disclosure Laws Related to Education

- Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA)
  - Protects the privacy of student education records
  - Must receive written permission from parents or student to release that student's education record
- Title IX
  - Prohibits sex discrimination in educational institutions
  - Schools and educators **must** respond promptly to complaints related to sex discrimination, sexual harassment, or sexual violence
- Really important if you proctor/TA while at UT!

## But Laws Aren't Enough...

- Laws only enforce the bare minimum of good behavior
- Cannot ensure a mutually positive experience, or that everyone conducts themselves with consideration for others



# Boundaries and Respect

- Boundaries can be defined as the understanding of “where you end and another person begins”
- Respect others’ needs and wants in terms of:
  - Space
  - Limits
  - Acceptable workplace behavior
  - Autonomy
- Defining rules up front (and following these rules regardless of the individual relationships) creates an environment of trust and respect

# References

- <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>
- <https://www.knowyourix.org/college-resources/title-ix/>
- <https://www.orionassoc.net/2014/02/18/five-ways-establish-good-boundaries-employees/>