Ethical Issues of HUMAINE

- solutions
  - governance
    - material v procedural view
    - consistency of ethics over project / product life cycle
    - identification v solution of issues
    - political will to emphasise ethics
    - enforcement of ethics procedures
    - HUMAINE association's view on ethics?
  - ethics committees
    - can draw on established procedures
    - easy to integrate
    - generate bureaucracy
    - mechanistic approach can hide relevant issues
    - constitution of committee: experts / lay people
  - alternative/ additional solutions
    - compliance / legal approach
    - stakeholder involvement
    - continuous ethical review procedures
    - education of researchers / users
    - others???
- HUMAINE questions
  - conceptual issues
    - role of emotions in ethics
    - differing stakeholder perceptions
    - philosophical problems of AI
    - acceptability of artificially generating emotions (Weizenbaum)
  - process issues unexplored - solved?
  - intuitive approach
    - why is lying bad?
    - lying may be an ethical requirement
  - individual approach
    - informed consent
    - what about incompetent users?
    - socio-economic context
  - identification of issues
    - social consequences of use
    - unintended use
    - identification of side effects
    - preventable / foreseeable misuse
    - unexpected issues, such as standardisation
- HUMAINE issues
  - privacy / surveillance
  - artificial agents
  - theory of responsibility
  - future developments
  - ethics of inferring meaning
  - induction of emotions in users
  - questions of ends and means
- European Perspective
  - "i2010 – A European Information Society for growth and employment"
    - e-inclusion agenda
  - European Convention of Human Rights
  - privacy and data protection (Directives 95/46/EC and 2002/58/EC)
  - FP7 ethics framework
    - Seventh Framework Programme (Decision N°1982/2006/EC), Article 6 (1§) states that "All the research activities carried out under the Seventh Framework Programme shall be carried out in compliance with fundamental ethical principles."
    - "the opinions of the European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies [EGE] are and will be taken into account"
  - process issues
    - Human Research Ethics
    - Medical precedent
    - central issue: informed consent
  - outcome issues
    - results of implementation of technology
    - unexpected results / unintended use
    - misuse of technology
    - raises epistemological problems
- material computer ethics issues
  - conceptual work
  - privacy
  - IP - who owns the data collected? Who profits?
  - security / access
  - power shifts in social relationship
  - data quality and reliance on data
  - social impact: what if the technology is widely accepted?
- Theoretical Issues
  - Ethics / Morality
  - which ethical theory?
  - What can ethics do?
  - Problem: intuitive view
- Epistemological questions
  - How can we know relevant ethical issues?
  - level of granularity
  - Possible approaches
    - Stakeholder analysis: SoDIS
    - ethics as expert problem
  - How can ethical considerations be included in technical decisions
- Anthropological questions
  - how is the user conceptualised?
  - which aspects of users are emphasised?
  - can the technology impose additional requirements on users' personality / behaviour?
  - agency / AMA
  - lack of attention to emotions
- Critical Theory
  - Consumerism
  - increasing media power
  - Problems of Ideology
  - Alienation of employees
  - potential to solidify unequal (illegitimate?) power differences
  - how can / should users resist or circumvent the technology?
  - Ethical nature of communication - Habermas
  - potential for emancipation?