CLSI Focus Questions

• Major research challenges for measuring and characterizing network interference and censorship?
  – Ethics as a CAUSE
    • balancing research innovation and risk (eg, experiments with hosts in censorship countries put them at risk)
    • coverage, validity of measurements and conclusions
  – Censorship not monolithic... many different types call for different measurements

• Opportunities and challenges for interdisciplinary research collaborations in this area?
  – Share and pool ethical challenges
  – Develop shared values, practices and tools for understanding, reasoning and evaluating ethical decisions

• Important ethical questions researchers in the area should be considering
  – Challenges adhering to formal ethics procedures
  – Challenges that emerge during research (unknown-unknowns, known-unknowns)
  – What is “minimal risk” in these new research scenarios
  – Sensitive settings that involve blurred research boundaries
  – Processes of obtaining informed consent and ensuring voluntary participation when working with marginalized groups
  – Introducing new and disruptive technologies into sensitive settings

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Getting to the Ethical Questions ... State of Affairs Today

3-legged stool

- Principles

Applications
- Ethics by design

Implementation
- QC tools
- Oversight

Problems Today

- Lack Shared Community Values
- Lack guidance ethic mgmt
- Lack enforcement
- IRB? PC? Funding Agency?

What “WE” Can Fix

- Menlo Report
- Other Ethics Guides
- Companion to Menlo
- Ethical Impact Assessment
- CREDS Tool

Self-Reg:
- PC, IRB, Funding
Answering the Ethical Questions: Cyber-risk Ethics Decision Support (CREDS) Tool

- **Overarching Objective**: engineer an interdisciplinary foundation for identifying, reasoning about, managing and evaluating ethics in research

- **Motivation**: Operationalize as a decision support methodology, conceptual framework, and tool that codifies ethical and legal principles (i.e. “minimal harm”)

- **Goals**:
  - estimate and communicate ethical uncertainty and risk;
  - identify potential ethical impacts of technology;
  - measure and improve human judgment and human reasoning.

- **Audience**: Researchers, Overseers (ERB, PC, Gov’t funders)

- **Methodology**:
  - Derive rights and obligations/responsibilities from tenets of ethics, laws, organizing principles, best practices → using that to drive engineering and technical requirements or guidelines.
  - Transform EIA logic and methodology into an online decision support tool (CREDS)
  - Test and improve with real world, case-based scenarios and consultation with a range of stakeholders
# CREDS Tool – Underlying Logic

## Ethical Impact Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Lifecycle</th>
<th>Ethical Principles</th>
<th>Risk Factors</th>
<th>Assistive Questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Research Collection</td>
<td>Respect for Persons - (Identification of Beneficence (Minimizing risk to individuals; Maximizing benefit to society; Mitigating realized harms)) Justice (Fairness &amp; Equity in selection of subjects and distribution of research benefits) Respect for Law and Public Interest (Compliance with Law; Transparency &amp; accountability of actions)</td>
<td>Nature of the Data Sensitivity: non-public, identifiable; confidential Nature of the Resource/System Platform Network Nature of the Data Provider, Data Recipient, Data Subject Stakeholders rights and interests Nature of the Data Collection Purpose</td>
<td>Harm Mitigation Collection controls (operational access type), data (filtering, anon), legal/policy agreements) Data Protection Stakeholder consent Legal Exception</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CREDS Tool Output: (1) Risk Heat Map

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Lifecycle</th>
<th>Risk Factor</th>
<th>Nature of Data</th>
<th>Nature of Resource/System</th>
<th>Nature of Data Provider, Recipient Subject</th>
<th>Nature of Purpose</th>
<th>Harm Mitigation</th>
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<tr>
<td>Collection</td>
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<td>Use</td>
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**Question 23:**
Have you applied data disclosure controls?

**Answer:**
No

**Risk Rationale:**
Raw disclosure of sensitive data presents risk to data subject

Mouse-over description of risk score logic

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