

National Institute for Engineering Ethics New Movie

Henry's Daughters ©2010

NIEE produced *Henry's Daughters* to raise awareness of the ethical aspects of engineering work, advance knowledge and understanding of professional standards and public obligations and expectations, improve skills in moral reasoning, and strengthen personal dedication to exemplary conduct.

Executive Producers were Joseph Herkert, Michael Loui, William Marcy, Steven Nichols, and Jimmy Smith. The entire NIEE Executive Board members served as Senior Investigators and Technical Advisors.

Sample Questions

(The Study Guide contains 76 Questions)

Professional Issues

1. Are there ethical implications to Henry, a lobbyist, hosting the senator on his expensive yacht?
2. Is there an accepted code of practice or ethics for lobbyists? If not, suggest a few ethical statements for lobbyists.

Ethics and New Technology Issues

3. What are the responsibilities of engineers when developing new technologies whose risks are difficult to foresee?
4. Because the experience base for a new technology is limited, it is difficult to write technical specifications. If engineers believe that the specifications are inadequate for future needs, should they recommend a system with characteristics exceeding those specifications?

Conflict of Interest

5. Was it appropriate for Henry and his daughters to work on the same project for different parties?
6. Was Laura given the project because of her engineering talents and work ethic or because of Henry's connections? If so, this might be a conflict of interest. If you are involved in a conflict of interest, what should you do?

Gender Issues

7. Are sexist comments disguised as "jokes" acceptable?
8. Is it permissible for a male employee to put his hand on a female employee's shoulders? Or vice versa? For a male employee to put his hand on another male employee's shoulders?

Intellectual Property Issues

9. When and why might using unlicensed software be unethical?
10. Is Julie justified in feeling harmed by the fact that some work she did for OUTOCAR was used as a dissertation without giving her credit?

Privacy Issues

11. Given that biometric information is information about the physical condition or characteristics of individuals, is there a problem with collecting biometric information about individual vehicle drivers and passengers?
12. Does tracking vehicle location cause a violation of privacy?

Effective Communications

13. If you were to develop an ethical corporate or organizational culture, how would you encourage workers to feel comfortable about speaking freely about ethical, safety, and legal issues, and see such discussions as an obligation?
14. What do you think you would do to promote trust and respect among your colleagues and other professionals in other departments?



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Cast of Characters in Henry's Daughters



A Study Guide and information about *Henry's Daughters* ©2010 and our other engineering ethics movies, *Gilbane Gold* ©1989 and *Incident at Morales* ©2005, as well as our ethics seminars, workshops, and ethics courses may be obtained from:

www.niee.org