

## **Chapter 1: The internet, ethical values, and conceptual frameworks**

### **“Gender and Computer Ethics” (Alison Adam)**

#### **Learning Expectations:**

I expect to learn why gender is an issue in computer ethics.

#### **Quote:**

*“Categorical claims that gender either definitely does or definitely does not make a material difference to moral reasoning relating to the use of computers somehow misses the point. More important is the question of whether or not the more collectivist ‘ethic of care’ approach to ethics advocated in feminist approaches to ethics can offer alternative and perhaps better ways to tackle computer ethics problems.”*

#### **Book Review:**

For as long as I have been studying, sexism has always been existent. This special type of discrimination has reached controversial issues such as; women not allowed to vote, daughters being sold by their fathers, etc. It has always been a social and a moral issue concerning ethical treatment on women. In this paper, Adam stated that women experience problems in accessing computer technology, and she argued on whether there is a difference between men and women’s ethical decision making in relation to information and computing technologies (ICT).

In our society today, the men outnumber the women in the field of Information Technology. But I don’t think there’s any discrimination in this field, at least here in the Philippines. Equal treatment is always practiced.

I personally think that the ethical decision making among men and women in ICT, would always differ. Of course, there are social and intellectual differences and I would regard it as natural and inevitable.

#### **Integrative Questions:**

1. What are the advantages/disadvantages of men in the ICT field?
2. What are the advantages/disadvantages of women in the ICT field?