

# Practice Questions for resolving dilemmas using Ethical Theories

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## Scenario No. 2

A worm is a self-contained program that spreads through a computer network by taking advantage of security holes in the computers connected to the network. In August 2003, the Blaster worm infected many computers running the Windows 8 and Windows 10 operating systems. The Blaster worm caused computers it infected to reboot every few minutes. Soon another worm was exploiting the same security hole in Windows to spread through the Internet. However, the purpose of the new worm, named Nachi, was benevolent. Since Nachi took advantage of the same security hole as Blaster, it could not infect computers that were immune to the Blaster worm.

Once Nachi gained access to a computer with the security hole, it located and destroyed copies of the Blaster worm. It also automatically downloaded from Microsoft a patch to the operating system software that would fix the security problem. Finally, it used the computer as a launching pad to seek out other Windows PCs with the security hole.

**Using the following theories, was the action of the person who released the Nachi worm morally right or wrong?**

- a. **Social contract theory (Hint: First you assume a rule or contract and then based on that figure out the action was right or wrong)**

- b. **Deontology**

- c. **Utilitarianism**