XR, AI, and Ethical Decision-Making in Humanities and Education
INTRODUCTION OF PRESENTERS

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Defining XR
Question

What might be the educational benefits of incorporating XR and AI technologies in the teaching of ethics and other humanities courses, as well as courses for preservice teacher education students?
Philosophy
The Thought Experiment
The Trolley Car
From Thought Experiments to Embodied Experiences
Why is this important?

• From neuroscience to social psychology: the mere holding of moral principles do not guide and govern our behavior as once believed.

• Mere thought experiments fail to instill habits within us.

• XR simulations, on the contrary, allow for us to develop habits of thought and action, which have the potential to enhance our character.
XR and Habit Formation
Goal of Project

• Ethics Extended Reality (EXR) partnering with the CoE XR Development lab, focusing on problems related to moral decision-making, diversity, equity, and inclusion in both education and ethics.
Infrastructure & Data
The Need to Think about Ethics Contextually

Our Multidisciplinary and Multicultural Approach
• The Role of AI in the creation of XR simulations
Preservice Teacher Education Students and XR

- Students encounter ethical dilemmas and situations in teacher education classes
  - TchLrn 301 and MIT 501
    - Muslim students in class that discusses 9/11
      - XR enables an immersive experience
      - Decision Trees: Multiple interpretations and consequences for preservice teachers
    - Extension to other student, eg Ed Leadership
Preservice Teacher Education Students and XR

- Merely thinking about moral choices does not change one’s character or future actions.

- XR technologies:
  - Simulating moral sensations to help students move beyond reflection

- Habit Development

- AI technologies, decision trees, and XR experiences
Beyond WSU: Empathy in Healthcare
Very Costly Problems

(1) HCAHPS & Low patient satisfaction scores
(2) A Lack of Empathic Communication--Lawsuits
(3) Poor medical outcomes
(4) Adherence to treatment recommendations
(5) Physician burnout and compassion fatigue
(6) High Turnover Rates
(7) Excessive and costly readmissions
(8) Bad reputation
How many emotions did you just see?

Three
Five
Seven or more
Avoids eye contact as he greets the patient!
Empathic Perspective Taking