AT TECHNOETHICS

WHISTLEBLOWING

The expert has a social and moral responsibility: to design or help implement only projects that will not endanger public welfare, and to alert the public against any projects that do not satisfy that condition -- i.e. to blow the whistle. Unfortunately the whistle blowing imperative conflicts with fidelity to client or employer, to such an extent that whistle blowers are often fired and even harassed. This is where professional societies must intervene. But since such intervention is often inefficient, a more radical way has to be found. In fact it has already been found, namely citizen participation, or "interactive planning".

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