

CASE 11 LOYALTY OR DUTY

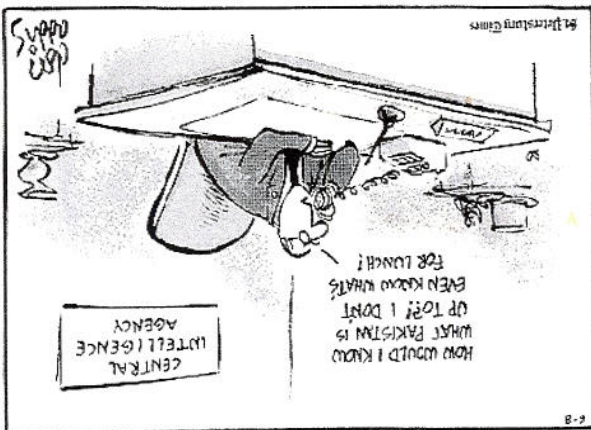
By Eric Carver

Ebony and Tamara have been great friends since middle school. They played sports together, went to the same college, and often hang out together on the weekends. Ebony recently completed nursing school, and Tamara finished a degree in business. Both landed jobs within weeks of graduating, and

they are looking forward to beginning their careers.

Recently, Tamara started dating Luke. As the two continue to enjoy dinners, movies, and local sporting events, Tamara has developed feelings for Luke, and the feeling seems to be mutual. One evening, Tamara asks Ebony to join them for dinner at a local restaurant to meet Luke for the first time. The date is set, and Ebony is pleased to see her best friend so excited about the event.

Ebony arrives at the restaurant, and upon seeing Luke, her anxiety spikes. Ebony realizes that Luke is a patient in her clinic and is currently being treated for HIV. Ebony is fully aware of the HIPAA Privacy Rule and her duty to keep Luke's health information, HIV status, and affiliation with the clinic confidential. Ebony is deeply concerned that if Tamara and Luke continue to date, they may engage in



"Anger is an acid that can do more harm to the vessel in which it is stored than to anything on which it is poured."
—Mark Twain