

Ethics & Decision Making and Bystander Behavior Workbook



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Definitions

Morals

Principals that guide the understanding right and wrong.

Values

A set of standards that influence behavior.

Ethics

A set of moral principles and patterns of choice that guide behavior.

Integrity

Wholeness in the quality of being honest and morally upright.

1. Discerning what is right and wrong
2. Acting on what you have discerned, even at personal cost
3. Stating openly that you are acting on your understanding of right and wrong

Steven Carter, *Integrity*

Ethical Positioning Questionnaire

This questionnaire was designed to measure your attitudes about a number of potentially related things. You will find a series of statements below. Each represents a commonly held opinion and there are no right or wrong answers. You will probably disagree with some items and agree with others. We are interested in the extent to which you agree or disagree with such matters of opinion. Please read each statement carefully and then indicate the extent of your disagreement/agreement with each item according to the following scale:

1	:	2	:	3	:	4	:	5
	:		:		:		:	
strongly	:		:	no opinion	:		:	strongly
disagree	:	disagree	:	or neutral	:	agree	:	agree

Please indicate your response by writing in the appropriate number in the space provided. Then total your score for questions 1-10 and 11-20 in the spaces provided.

- ___ 1. People should make certain that their actions never intentionally harm others even to a small degree.
- ___ 2. Risks to another should never be tolerated, irrespective of how small the risks might be.
- ___ 3. The existence of potential harm to others is always wrong, irrespective of the benefits to be gained.
- ___ 4. One should never psychologically or physically harm another person.
- ___ 5. One should not perform an action which might in any way threaten the dignity and welfare of another individual.
- ___ 6. If an action could harm an innocent other, then it should not be done.
- ___ 7. Deciding whether or not to perform an act by balancing the positive consequences of the act against the negative consequences of the act is immoral.
- ___ 8. The dignity and welfare of people should be the most important concern in any society.
- ___ 9. It is never necessary to sacrifice the welfare of others.
- ___ 10. Moral actions are those which closely match ideals of the most "perfect" action.

Total 1-10 ___

- ___ 11. There are no ethical principles that are so important that they should be part of any code of ethics.
- ___ 12. What is ethical varies from one situation and society to another.
- ___ 13. Moral standards should be seen as being individualistic; what one person considers to be moral may be judged to be immoral by another person.
- ___ 14. Different types of moralities cannot be compared as to "rightness."
- ___ 15. Questions of what is ethical for everyone can never be resolved since what is moral or immoral is up to the individual.
- ___ 16. Moral standards are simply personal rules which indicate how a person should behave, and are not to be applied in making judgments of others.
- ___ 17. Ethical considerations in interpersonal relations are so complex that individuals should be allowed to formulate their own individual codes.
- ___ 18. Rigidly codifying an ethical position that prevents certain types of actions could stand in the way of better human relations and adjustment.
- ___ 19. No rule concerning lying can be formulated; whether a lie is permissible or not totally depends on the situation.
- ___ 20. Whether a lie is judged to be moral or immoral depends upon the circumstances surrounding the action.

Total 11-20 _____

Source: Forsyth, D. R. (1980). A taxonomy of ethical ideologies. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 39, 175-184.

Values Assessment

1. Briefly Review the following lists (Self, Spiritual, Vocation, Relationships, Community) and circle those items in each area that you value. You may circle all that apply add your own if you so desire.
2. Bring this completed assignment with you and be prepared to discuss it in class. You will not be allowed to participate in the workshop without the assignment.

Values Related to Self:

Academic accomplishment	Spirituality	Clothes
Academic degrees	Personal development	House
Education	Appearance and image	Attention
Intellectual growth	Physical fitness	Approval
Knowledge	Recognition	Sex
Achieving goals	Self-respect and esteem	Skills
Affiliation and belonging	Wisdom	Vacations
Courage	Social Status	Memories
Decisiveness	Addictions	Cars
Affluence	Doing something well	Time
Economic security	Athletic prowess	Gardening
Wealth	Physical health	Admiration
Self-indulgence	Emotional health	Technology
Balance	Material possessions	Love
Hobbies	Television	Fame
Creativity	Movies	Writing
Enjoyment	Integrity	Speaking
Music	Reading	Researching
Happiness and joy	Legacy	Ideas
Humor	Dreams, goals, visions	Dancing
Influence and impact	Fulfillment	Logic
Politics	Contentment	Other:_____
Self-actualization	School	Other:_____
Religion	Teams	Other:_____

Spiritual Values:

God	Balance	Ethics
Religion	Morality	Reflection
Honesty	Meditation	Moderation
Aesthetics	Retreats	Responsibility
Introspection	Duty	Inner peace
Wisdom	Fulfillment	Love
Contentment	Forgiveness	Heaven
Optimism	Faith	Other:_____
Hope	Respect	Other:_____
Tolerance	Integrity	Other:_____

Values Assessment

Vocational Values:

Achieving goals
Promotions
Affiliation and belonging
Autonomy and independence
Change and variety
Achieving results
Compensation
Family-like environment
Diverse perspectives
Variety of skills
Influence and impact
Activity
Authority
Collaboration
Vision and goal
Competence
Creativity
Productivity
Justice

Loyalty
Rewards
Self-respect and esteem
Balance
Challenge
Duty
Dreams
Courage
Expertise
Trust
Location
Recognition
Status
Responsibility
Developing others
Doing something well
An organization
Dignified treatment
Position

Profits
Symbols of success
Time
Job security
Opportunities
Technology
Title
Rate of return
Ideas
Bonuses
Respect
Advancement
Office
Perks
Other: _____
Other: _____
Other: _____

Relationship Values:

Family
Camaraderie
Bonding
Diversity and perspectives
Respect
Children
Friends

Love
Sense of community
Developing others
Dignified treatment
Cooperation
Fellowship
Support

Loyalty
Sex
Goodwill
Harmony
Other: _____
Other: _____
Other: _____

Community Values:

Helping others
Location
Neighborhood
Altruism
Service
Sense of community
Duty
Humanitarianism
Contributing time
Contributing money
Contributing resources
Justice

Volunteering
Diversity
Publicity
Other: _____
Other: _____
Other: _____

Values Assessment

2. Rank the top five items in each list with “1st” being the item you most value. Do not have “ties.” Each item should have a different rank.

Rank	Self	Spiritual
1 st		
2 nd		
3 rd		
4 th		
5 th		

Rank	Vocational	Relationship
1 st		
2 nd		
3 rd		
4 th		
5 th		

Rank	Community
1 st	
2 nd	
3 rd	
4 th	
5 th	

3. Out of the twenty-five values you ranked, generate the top five things you value most with “1st” being the item you most value. Do not have “ties.” Each item should have a different rank and you should only have five listed.

Rank	Overall Values
1 st	
2 nd	
3 rd	
4 th	
5 th	

Values Reflection

Relist the top five overall things you value from the values assignment.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Where did you get this set of values?

Which of these is the most important to you? Why?

Do you promote this value? If so, how?

Have you ever tried to convince someone else to act on this value? How did you attempt to do this? What was the end result?

Decision Making

Put these seven steps used to make decisions in the correct order.

Steps	Order
Choose the best ethical alternative	
Define the ethical problem when it arises	
Evaluate the alternatives	
Formulate alternatives	
Implement the best alternative	
Monitor and assess the outcome	
Seek additional assistance/advice	

Questions to ask yourself when trying to make a decision:

- Is it legal
- What does my gut tell me about my decision
- Would I want my mother to know
- Would I want my actions and the consequences to be on the front page of the newspaper
- Would my parents do this
- Would I want this done to me or someone I care about

Things to avoid:

- The clearly illegal
- That which violated basic human rights
- The dangerous
- The incredibly stupid
- The insensitive (to human needs or feelings)
- The inefficient or impractical
- The irritating or annoying

