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ETHICAL DILEMMA

Chapter 5

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Definition of Ethical Dilemma:

An ethical dilemma or ethical paradox is a decision-making problem between two possible moral imperatives, neither of which is unambiguously acceptable or preferable. The complexity arises out of the situational conflict in which obeying one would result in transgressing another.



Meaning of Ethical Dilemma:



Managers are sometimes faced with business choices that creates tensions between ethics and profits, or between their private gain and the public good. Any decision where moral considerations are relevant can potentially give to an **ethical dilemma**. For example, A decision that requires a choice between rules.

What is Ethics, Values, Morals, Laws and Policies?

Ethics are propositional statements (standards) that are used by members of a profession or group to determine what the right course of action in a situation is. Ethics rely on logical and rational criteria to reach a decision, an essentially cognitive process.

Values, on the other hand, describes ideas that we value or prize. To value something means that we hold it dear and feel it has worth to us.

Morals describes a behavioral code of conduct to which an individual ascribes. They are used to negotiate, support, and strengthen our relationships with others.

Laws and agency policies are often involved in complex cases, one is often legally obligated to take a particular course of action.

Conflicts between Personal and Professional Values should not be considered Ethical Dilemma:

Conflicts between personal and professional values should not be considered ethical dilemma for a number of reasons. Because values involve feelings and are personal, the rational process used for resolving ethical dilemmas cannot be applied to values conflicts.



Sources of Ethical Dilemma:

An ethical dilemma is a moral situation in which a choice has to be made between two equally undesirable alternatives. A business dilemma exists when an organizational decision maker faces a choice between two or more options that will have various impacts on (i) the organization's profitability and competitiveness; and (ii) its stakeholders.

Many of these ethical choices involve conflicts....

- 1) Truth vs. Loyalty
- 2) Individual vs. Community
- 3) Short-term vs. Long-term
- 4) Justice vs. Mercy



Rules For Solving Ethical Dilemma:

Simple ethical rules: Simple ethical rules are related to the consequences for the person who makes the decision, or to an agent. They consists of the “golden rule” and rule of the categorical imperative.

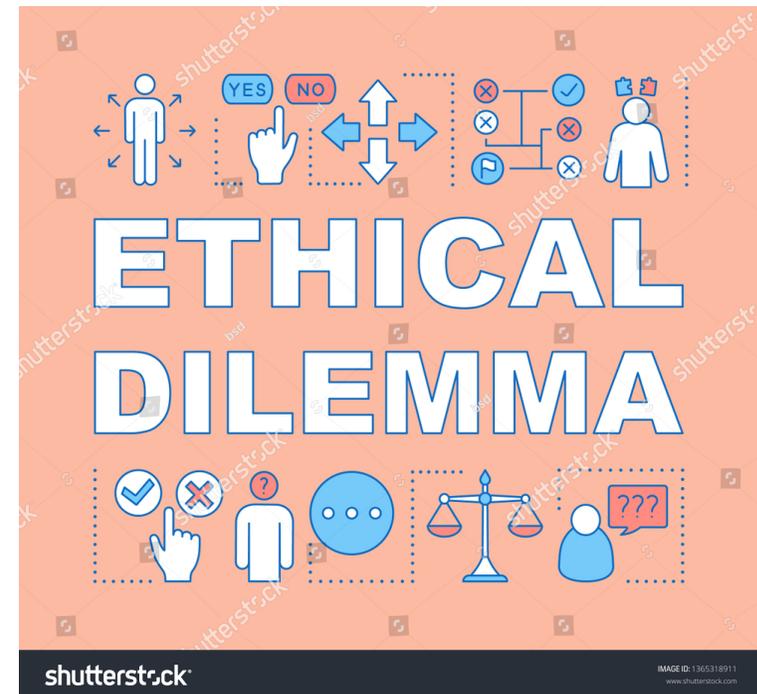


Multiple ethical rules: It consists of the several simple rules, such as: the rule of duty, the rule of the maximum of justice and the principle of proportionality.



Conclusion:

When attempting to resolve an ethical dilemma in practice, one should determine if it is an absolute or approximate dilemma; distinguish between personal and professional dimensions; and identify the ethical, moral, legal, and values considerations in the situation. After conducting this preliminary analysis, an ethical decision-making model can then be appropriately applied.



THANK YOU !!!
