

Ethics and Morals

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**DEPUTY TOM MILLER
SAN JUAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

17 OCT 2018

Moral Ozone

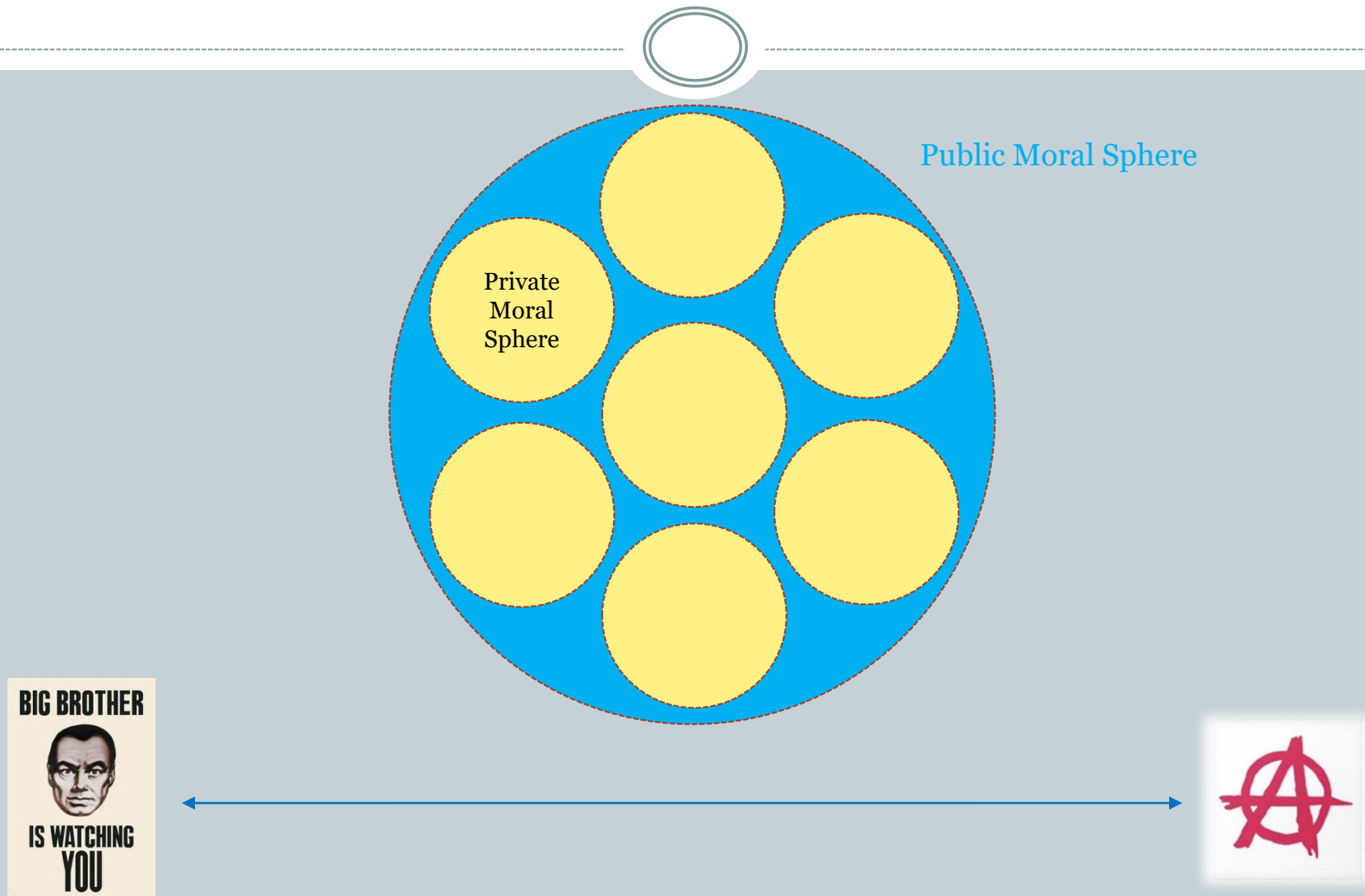
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“There is a hole in the moral ozone, and it’s getting bigger.”

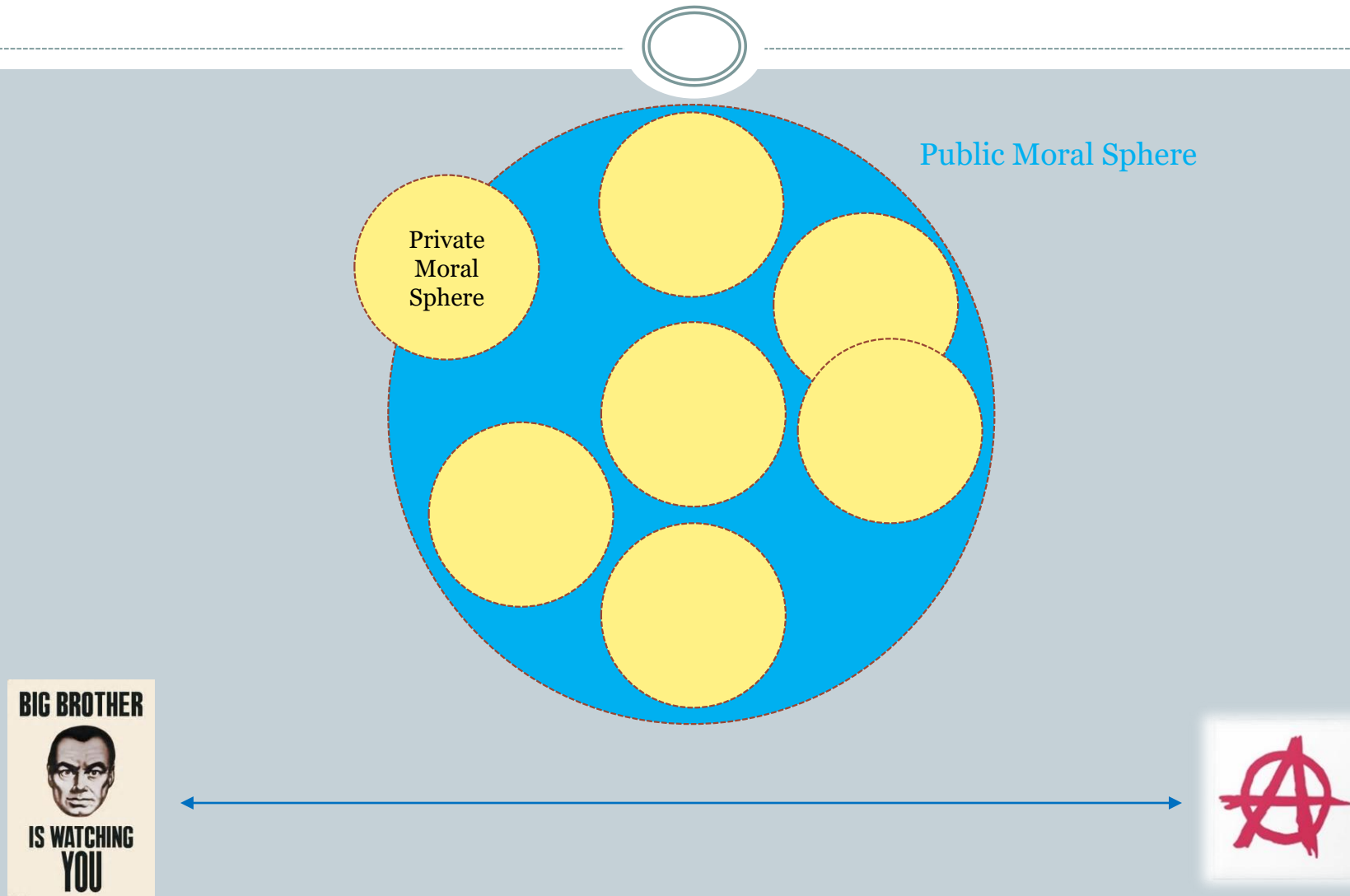
Michael Josephson

Founder, CEO, President of the Josephson Institute of Ethics in Playa del Rey, CA.

Public vs Private Morals



Public vs Private Morals



Extreme Personal Moral Sphere



Down the Ethics Rabbit Hole

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CONSEQUENTIAL ETHICS

Divine Command Ethics

Duty Ethics (Kant)

Egoism (Thomas Hobbes)

Utilitarianism (Jeremy Bentham)



Virtue/Character Ethics (Aristotle)

NON – CONSEQUENTIAL ETHICS

PRAGMATISM (JOHN DEWEY)

Situation Ethics
(Joseph Fletcher)

Natural Law Ethics

Defining Terms

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Ethics:

A code of values which guides our choices and actions and determines the purpose and course of our lives.

Doing the
right thing at the
right time in the
right manner for the
right reason.

Ethical Behavior in the Workplace

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Acting in ways consistent with what society and individuals typically think are good values. Ethical behavior tends to be good for business and involves demonstrating respect for key moral principles that include honesty, fairness, equality, dignity, diversity and individual rights.

ETHICS IN THE WORKPLACE

If You're Unsure -
Before You Act – ASK:

Is this legal?

Is it against co. policy?

*Could the action cause loss
or harm to anyone?*

*If everyone I knew saw me,
would I feel uncomfortable?*



Unethical Behavior in the Workplace

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- Personal use of resources
 - Theft
 - Falsification
- Conflict of interest
 - Accepting bribe, extortion
 - Solicitation, donation, gifts
- Hiring/staffing practices
 - Influence peddling
 - Biases and partiality
- Abusive behavior
 - harassment



Quiz

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How Ethical are you?



1



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Quiz

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How Ethical is your Agency / Department / Organization?



1



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So, How does it happen?

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To This?

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Aztec School Teacher



Executive Director
Crime Stoppers



NM State Police



Burger King

Defining Terms

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Morals: Define what is right and wrong.

Values: Beliefs of worth and importance that we hold true, that may be adjusted or changed over time.

Values are subjective; you cannot tell other people what to value without causing interpersonal conflict.

What do you Value?

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Money

Integrity

Family

Control

Power

Sex

Race

Character

National Origin

Religion

Position

Freedom

Defining Terms

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- Virtues: universal standards of right and wrong. Cutting across class and ethnic lines, they are timeless moral principles against which we judge our own behavior and that of our fellow citizens.

Virtues unite us as a community; Values irreparably divide us.

Another test question!

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What was George Washington's first profession?

A role model for all

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...so invariably correct have these surveys been found that to this day, wherever any of them stand on record, they receive implicit credit.

Life of George Washington by Washington Irving 1876

A role model for all

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1799



...so invariably correct have these surveys been found that to this day, wherever any of them stand on record, they receive implicit credit.

Life of George Washington by Washington Irving 1876

A role model for all

22

1799



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...so invariably correct have these surveys been found that to this day, wherever any of them stand on record, they receive implicit credit.

Life of George Washington by Washington Irving 1876

A role model for all

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...so invariably correct have these surveys been found that to this day, wherever any of them stand on record, they receive implicit credit.

Life of George Washington by Washington Irving 1876

A fight as old as man

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Aristotle
Two sets of standards

Paul
Romans 7:14
Conflict between two natures

Jeckle & Hyde
Robert Lewis Stevenson

Carl Jung
The duality of man



Defining Terms

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- Stakeholder:
 - Any person, organization, or entity that may be affected by what you do



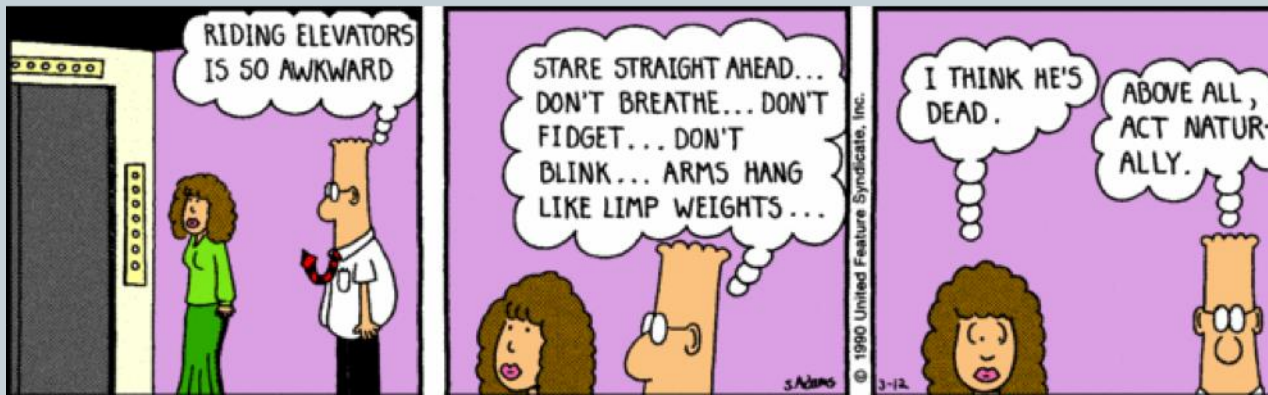
You as the only stakeholder?
Not likely...



Defining Terms

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- Social norms or **mores** are the unwritten rules of behavior that are considered acceptable in a group or society.
 - People who do not follow these norms may be shunned or suffer some kind of consequence.
 - Norms change according to the environment or situation and may change or be modified over time.





The 6 Pillars of Character

Michael Josephson

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- 1. Trustworthiness
 - Honesty
 - Integrity
 - Promise-Keeping
 - Loyalty
- 2. Respect
- 3. Responsibility
 - Accountability
 - Pursuit of Excellence
 - Self-Restraint
- 4. Justice and Fairness
- 5. Caring
- 6. Civic Virtue and Citizenship

Can you be both?

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- Can you be a dirt bag in your private life and still be an ethical public servant?



- You can fool some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you can not fool all of the people all of the time.
Abraham Lincoln, (attributed)

Something to Ponder

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Character is like a tree and reputation like its shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing.
Abraham Lincoln

Watch your thoughts;
they become words.
Watch your words;
they become actions.
Watch your actions;
they become habits.
Watch your habits;
they become character.
Watch your character;
it becomes your destiny.

—Lao-Tze

We Practice and develop a

2nd Nature

**We Practice and develop a
2nd Nature**

**So, if there's a 2nd Nature,
there must be a 1st.**

The “Ethics Check” Question

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1. Is it Legal?
2. Is it Balanced?
3. How will I feel about myself

“Legal” is the **lowest** decision point

Ceiling

Ethical

Legal

Floor

Why fight the fight?

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The S.T.A.R.

*Someone who **S**tands **A**bove the **R**est*

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- Who comes to mind?
- What are the characteristics of that person?
- How do we make those traits part of the makeup of this organization?

Conclusion

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Be the role model that you are.
Set the example.



Be that one person they can
look up to and trust without
question.



Be at war with your vices

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Anger

Lust



Greed

Fraud

Peer Pressure

Continuum of Compromise / aka the Slippery Slope

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The Continuum of Compromise



Begins with a Perceived Sense of Victimization

Slippery Slope Step 1

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Acts of Omission:

Occur when Offices rationalize and Justify not doing things they are responsible for doing.

- Selective non-productivity
- Ignoring traffic violations
- Omitting paperwork
- Lack of Follow-up

Slippery Slope Step 2

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Acts of Commission (Administrative):

Occur when Offices commit administrative violations.
Breaking small rules.

- Carrying unauthorized equipment
- Engaging in prohibited pursuits
- Drinking on Duty
- Romantic interludes at work

Slippery Slope Step 3

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Acts of Commission (Criminal):

Occur when Officers commit criminal acts.

- Throwing away evidence
- Overtime embellished
- Purchasing needed Police Gear with seized money

Ethical egoism

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Ethical egoism is the normative ethical position that moral agents ought to do what is in their own self-interest. It differs from psychological egoism, which claims that people can only act in their self-interest. Ethical egoism also differs from rational egoism, which holds that it is rational to act in one's self-interest. Ethical egoism holds, therefore, that actions whose consequences will benefit the doer can be considered ethical in this sense.

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Duty Ethics

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Deontological ethics or **Deontology** (from Greek [δέον](#), *deon*, "obligation, duty") is the normative ethical position that judges the morality of an action based on rules

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Natural Law Ethics

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Natural law theory is a legal theory that recognizes law and morality as deeply connected, if not one and the same. Morality relates to what is right and wrong and what is good and bad. Natural law theorists believe that human laws are defined by morality, and not by an authority figure, like a king or a government. Therefore, we humans are guided by our **human nature** to figure out what the laws are, and to act in conformity with those laws.

The concept of morality under the natural law theory is not **subjective**. This means that the definition of what is 'right' and what is 'wrong' is the same for everyone, everywhere.

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Situation Ethics

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Fletcher believed that there are no absolute laws other than the law of Agapē love and all the other laws were laid down in order to achieve the greatest amount of this love. This means that all the other laws are only guidelines to how to achieve this love, and thus they may be broken if the other course of action would result in more love.

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Utilitarianism

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Utilitarianism is an ethical theory which states that the best action is the one that maximizes utility. "Utility" is defined in various ways, usually in terms of the well-being of sentient entities. Jeremy Bentham, the founder of utilitarianism, described utility as the sum of all pleasure that results from an action, minus the suffering of anyone involved in the action. Utilitarianism is a version of consequentialism, which states that the consequences of any action are the only standard of right and wrong. Unlike other forms of consequentialism, such as egoism, utilitarianism considers the interests of all beings equally.

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[Ford Pinto Case](#)

Pragmatic Ethics

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Pragmatic ethics is a theory of normative philosophical ethics. Ethical pragmatists, such as John Dewey, believe that some societies have progressed morally in much the way they have attained progress in science. Scientists can pursue inquiry into the truth of a hypothesis and accept the hypothesis, in the sense that they act as though the hypothesis were true; nonetheless, they think that future generations can advance science, and thus future generations can refine or replace (at least some of) their accepted hypotheses. Similarly, ethical pragmatists think that norms, principles, and moral criteria are likely to be improved as a result of inquiry

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Divine Command Ethics

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Divine command theory (also known as **theological voluntarism**) is a meta-ethical theory which proposes that an action's status as morally good is equivalent to whether it is commanded by God. The theory asserts that what is moral is determined by what God commands, and that for a person to be moral is to follow his commands. Followers of both monotheistic and polytheistic religions in ancient and modern times have often accepted the importance of God's commands in establishing morality.

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Utilitarianism Ethics



[The Numbers](#)

Ford Pinto Case



- Benefits

- Savings: 180 burn deaths, 180 serious burn injuries, 2,100 burned vehicles
- Unit Cost: \$200,000 per death, \$67,000 per injury, \$700 per vehicle
- Total Benefit: $180 \times (\$200,000) + 180 \times (\$67,000) + 2,100 \times (\$700) = \textbf{\$49.5 million}$

- Costs

- Sales: 11 million cars, 1.5 million light trucks
- Unit Cost: \$11 per car, \$11 per truck
- Total Cost: $11,000,000 \times (\$11) + 1,500,000 \times (\$11) = \textbf{\$137 million}$

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Ethical Theories

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- **Virtue/Character Ethics (Aristotle)**

- the ultimate human goal is self-realization, achieve your natural purpose, or human nature by living consistent with your nature.
- It asks, what is the moral decision based on? What kind of person (character) should I be become?
- It says, cultivate virtues/character traits or habits. In short, morality is a learned behavior.
- It also says, virtues are learned

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CONSEQUENTIAL ETHICS

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- Consequentialism is the class of normative ethical theories holding that the consequences of one's conduct are the ultimate basis for any judgment about the rightness or wrongness of that conduct.

X, Y, Z = Desired Outcome

Example

CONSEQUENTIAL ETHICS

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NON – CONSEQUENTIAL ETHICS

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- The normative ethical position that judges the morality of an action based on rules. It is sometimes described as "duty-" or "obligation-" or "rule-" based **ethics**, because rules "bind you to your duty".

_____, _____, _____ = ?

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