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# **Professionalism and Codes of Ethics**

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# INTRODUCTION

1. In the world of profession, the source we can refer to in the problem is through A code of ethics.
  1. This code is used to find solutions for engineers to make decisions In resolving ethical issues that they may encounter.
3. Before using the code of ethics in engineering, first consider what profession it is and how it works so that it can be decided if it applies in engineering.
4. Only then can we look deeply at some of the codes of association of engineering professionals for us to study in general.

# OBJECTIVES

1. Determine whether engineering is a profession.
2. Understanding the codes of ethics.
3. Examine some codes of ethics of professional engineering societies.

# PROFESSIONAL ETHIC DEFINITION

- ▶ Professional ethics refers to a group of values related to professional practice, especially those that are important in a profession that serves or affects humans
- ▶ A professional is a person who carries out a profession, that is, a person who works in a specialized work area
- ▶ Professions are occupations that require specialized training and are regulated by certain standards.
- ▶ According to *Cervero* (1995), the main problem associated with the service of the profession to society stems not from a lack of knowledge or skills but stems from unethical practices
- ▶ Within the values of professional ethics, a professional should practice all these qualities such as the exercise of conscience, responsibility, punctuality, professional confidentiality, discipline, and diligence.

# CODE OF PROFESSIONAL ETHICS

- ▶ A professional code of ethics is a collection of rules for making decisions and evaluating what is good and wrong in the workplace.
- ▶ These principles, often known as an ethical code, describe an organization's aim and values, as well as how specialists are expected to solve challenges and the standards to which employees are held
- ▶ Professional organisations typically create codes of professional ethics to help members in adhering to sound and consistent ethical standards while carrying out their responsibilities.

# IMPORTANT CODE OF ETHICS

- A professional code of ethics is designed to guarantee that employees treat one another in a socially acceptable and courteous way
- It develops behavioural rules and conveys to all workers the need of universal compliance.
- It also established a mechanism for forewarning staff if they broke the code. Internally and internationally, a code of ethics provides as professional advice as well as a declaration of a company's beliefs and commitments.

# EXAMPLE OF PROFESSIONAL CODE OF ETHICS

## **TEACHERS**



## **DOCTORS**



Professional educators are normally bound by a universal code of ethics designed to protect the rights of all pupils. Teachers must operate impartially, honestly, and ethically in the classroom, as well as in their dealings with parents and colleagues.

Doctors must maintain a pure character and be careful in their care of the sick. Doctors should also be modest, sober, patient, and prompt in performing their duties without anxiety, as well as conduct themselves with decency in their job and in other aspects of their lives.

# WHAT IS ETHICAL LEADER

- ▶ Ethical leaders are role models that value ethical standards, hold their employees accountable to those standards, and, most importantly, create environments that foster ethical behaviour.
- ▶ Building goodwill connections and teaching people how to think about ethical issues, fostering ethical behaviour among workers, and nurturing future ethical leaders are all examples of how leaders communicate ethics.
- ▶ To summarise, an ethical leader must be a visible ethical individual who communicates consistently, as well as an ethical management team.

# TYPES OF LEADER

ETHICAL LEADER	HYPOCRITICAL LEADER	UNETHICAL LEADER	NEUTRAL (SILENT) LEADER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Individuals who practise ethical leadership follow a set of ideas and values that the majority sees as a sound basis for the common good.</li><li>Among these include integrity, respect, trust, fairness, transparency, and honesty.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A leader that say one thing and do the opposite.</li><li>These leaders pretend to do good things and say good things about others.</li><li>They strive for goodness, but they are either just bad inside or deluding themselves as good.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Brown and Mitchell define unethical behaviour as "behaviours conducted and decisions made by organisational leaders that are illegal and/or violate moral norms, as well as those that impose processes and structures that foster unethical activity by followers."</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The ethically neutral leader isn't blatantly immoral, but he or she looks to be more self- centred than people- oriented on the moral person scale.</li><li>On the moral management component, the morally neutral leader is supposed to concentrate on the bottom line without setting any additional ethical goals.</li></ul>

# CHARACTERISTIC OF PROFESSION

## **Common body language**

- Body language can convey a variety of messages. Understanding workplace body language has an impact on the productivity and relationships of the entire team.

## **Formal Education Process**

- Formal education improves people's well-being by fostering cognitive and noncognitive abilities, such as literacy and numeracy, as well as social and organisational skills. As a result, knowing how formal education creates certain talents is critical for developing effective education policies.

## **Standard of Entry**

- Entry criteria establish the beginning point for a career path. Every profession should have a publicly available, recognised process to become a recognised member. Formal education leading to an academic degree, as well as several years of experience, such as in an apprenticeship programme or as a newbie to the industry, are usually required.

## Recognition of public responsibility

- Acceptance of one's responsibilities to the public is a distinguishing feature of a profession. The collective well-being of the people and institutions that the profession serves is referred to as public duty.

## Integrity

- Integrity is a character trait that is required for professional success. It is the foundation of public trust and the benchmark against which all actions must be judged.

## Objectivity and Independence

- Objectivity is a frame of view that believes that a member's services are worth more when they are of high quality. It's a distinct aspect of the job. The need to be objective, intellectually honest, and devoid of conflicts of interest is enforced by the principle of objectivity. Following that, any transactions with independence that may appear to affect a member's objectivity in offering attestation services.

## Due Care

- Due care necessitates a member's skill and diligence in performing professional duties. It imposes the need to render professional services to the best of one's capacity, while also considering the best interests of people for whom the services are performed and the profession's public responsibility.

## Scope and Nature of Services

- The public interest requires that such services adhere to professional standards. Integrity necessitates service, and public confidence is not sacrificed for personal gain. Members should be free of conflicts of interest when performing professional duties, according to objectivity and independence. Due care necessitates competent and diligent service delivery.

# MORAL REASONING

- ▶ Moral reasoning may be described as the process through which humans utilise logic to discern what is good and wrong in a certain scenario.
- ▶ Individuals aren't especially good at moral reasoning, and the term "moral dumbfounding" refers to the fact that people regularly form strong moral convictions that they can't rationalise.
- ▶ For example, moral reasoning applies logic and moral theories such as deontology and utilitarianism to specific situations or dilemmas.

## Utilitarianism

- Utilitarianism is concerned with the outcomes of acts. It thinks that the principle of 'meaning justifies end'. As a result, members of the mathematical utilitarianism school place a higher weight on the outcomes of acts. Ability becomes extremely important in this way of thinking.

## Deontology

- Every action must be morally described, according to deontology. The morality of one's actions can influence the morality of one's outcome. According to deontology, if an action is moral in nature or nature, the effect should be moral or ethical as well. Deontology, on the other hand, feels that the concept of 'the end justifies it in this way.' Deontology is likewise not concerned with consequences because it is based solely on the Bible.

# CODE OF ETHICS

- Code of ethics is defined as a principle to help professionals conducting a work or a business honestly and with integrity. A code of ethics values the organization and how our employer or employee is supposed to approach and solve a problem based on the organization's core values.
- A code of ethics, also referred to as an "ethical code," it may encompass areas such as business ethics, a code of professional practice, and an employee code of conduct.
- A code of ethics sets out an organization's ethical guidelines and best practices to follow for honesty, integrity, and professionalism.
- For members of an organization, violating the code of ethics can result in sanctions including termination.
- In some industries, including banking and finance, specific laws govern business conduct. In others, a code of ethics may be voluntarily adopted.
- The main types of codes of ethics include a compliance-based code of ethics, a value-based code of ethics, and a code of ethics among professionals.
- A focus on climate change has become an integral part of companies' codes of ethics, detailing their commitment to sustainability.

# **TYPES OF CODE OF ETHICS**

## **Compliance-Based on Code of Ethics**

- For all business, if an employee or an employer does not follow the rules and guidelines in that businesses, they will be a penalty and can be assume that you have violated the rules and guidelines.
- Some companies have appointed a compliance officer to ensure that the principles of the code of ethics are followed by all employee.

## **Value-Based on Code of Ethics**

- A company's core value system are related with value-based code of ethics. For a person to have value-based code of ethics, it may require bigger degree of self-regulation than compliance-based code of ethics.

## **Code of Ethics Among Professionals**

- Financial advisers registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or a state regulator are bound by a code of ethics known as a fiduciary duty. This is a legal requirement and also a code of loyalty that requires them to act in the best interest of their clients.
- Certified public accountants, who are not typically considered fiduciaries to their clients, still are expected to follow similar ethical standards, such as integrity, objectivity, truthfulness, and avoidance of conflicts of interest

# CONCEPT CODE OF ETHICS

## **Code Of Conduct**

- A code of conduct establishes guidelines for how workers or members should behave in particular situations.

## **Relations Between Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct**

- In an organization, we can combine the code of ethics with the code of conduct. In most circumstances, organisations will merge these two agreements into one due to their extensive overlap. It is uncommon for firms to have two distinct policies.

# CODE OF ETHICS AND CODE OF CONDUCT

## **1. Be inclusive.**

- We embrace and assist individuals with a variety of backgrounds and identities. This includes, but is not limited to, individuals of any sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, race, ethnic origin, traditions, national origin, social and economic class, educational qualification, colour, immigration status, gender, age, size, family status, political view, religion, or mental or physical ability.

## **2. Be considerate.**

- We are all reliant on one another to deliver the highest quality work possible as a firm. Your actions will have an effect on clients and coworkers, and you should consider these implications before making judgments.

## **3. Be respectful.**

- While we will not always agree, disagreement is not a justification for disrespectful behaviour. While we all experience annoyance on occasion, we cannot allow that frustration to escalate into personal assaults. An environment in which individuals feel uneasy or intimidated is not conducive to productivity or creativity.

#### **4. Choose your words carefully.**

- Always maintain a professional attitude. Be considerate to others. Avoid insulting or demeanour others. Harassment and discriminatory behaviour are not tolerated.

#### **5. Don't harass.**

- In general, if someone asks you to stop, back for a moment. When we disagree, make an attempt to comprehend why. Conflicts and disagreements are almost always unavoidable. What matters is that we resolve disagreements and divergent viewpoints in a productive manner.

#### **6. Make differences into strengths.**

- Diverse groups may provide strength. Diverse viewpoints on topics might be advantageous when it comes to resolving challenges or producing new ideas. Inability to comprehend why someone maintains a position does not necessarily imply that they are incorrect. Bear in mind that we all make errors and that criticising one another accomplishes nothing.

# COMPONENT CODE OF ETHICS

## **1. Integrity**

- Being direct, honest, and truthful in all professional and business interactions. You should avoid being involved with any information that you feel contains a substantially false or misleading statement or is deceptive via omission.

## **2. Objectivity**

- Not allowing bias, conflict of interest or the influence of other people to override your professional judgment.

## **3. Professional Competence and Due Care**

- A sustained dedication to your professional knowledge and ability. This should be based on current practise, law, and approaches. Additionally, those reporting to you must have the necessary training and supervision.

## **4. Confidentiality**

- You should not share professional information unless you have received special authorization or are required to do so by law or your profession.

## **5. Professional Behaviour**

- Adhere to applicable laws and regulations. Additionally, you must abstain from any activity that might have a detrimental effect on the profession's reputation.

# ETHICAL THEORY

## DEFINITION

- Ethical Theory publishes articles on ethical theory that address practical issues, as well as articles presenting or studying empirical results on moral practice that are pertinent to ethical theory.
- Additionally, the magazine actively promotes consent throughout the domains of practical philosophy - including moral, political, legal, and social philosophy - as well as other disciplines like as medicine, economics, sociology, political science, and psychology.
- It accepts work in practical ethics that contributes to the greater philosophical discussion, either theoretically or normatively.

Ethical Theories are attempts to give a cohesive account of our ethical responsibilities. Several philosophical ethical ideas are frequently used, including the following:

1. **Utilitarianism** - the belief that the proper thing to do in each situation is whatever will "do the greatest good" while taking into account the interests of all parties involved.
2. **Kantianism** - or, more broadly, Deontology - holds that some absolute (or almost absolute) norms must be observed out of respect for others. For example, we must respect people's privacy and their freedom to choose their own life choices.
3. **Social Contract Theory**, also known as contractarianism, asserts that in order to choose the ethical standards to follow, we must first conceive the rules reasonable humans would agree to in an ideal decision-making setting.
4. **Virtue Theory**, which asserts that we should focus not on which rules to obey, but on the kind of people or organizations we wish to be and the ethical models we wish to emulate.
5. **Feminist Ethics** is a diverse group of interconnected ideas that place a premium on interpersonal considerations such as compassion, interdependence, and the ethical constraints of specific relationships. While such issues have historically been associated with women, Feminist Ethics should not be seen as a philosophy exclusively for women.

# CONCEPT OF ETHICAL THEORY

- To ascertain what problems have occurred with previous ideas and to work toward a more complete knowledge of morality over time.
- Ethical Theory is a systematic endeavor to comprehend and defend moral notions, principles, and theories.
- Ethical theories serve as a basis for decision-making when ethics are involved, since they represent the perspective from which individuals seek direction while making decisions.

# BRIEF HISTORY OF ETHICAL ETHIC

## **1. Hinduism (100–400 BCE)**

- Hindu literature dates all the way back to 1000 BCE, preaching ethics as a path to moksa, or escape from rebirth.

## **2. Taoism (800–200 BCE)**

- The Tao Te Ching or The Way and its Power arose in the sixth century BCE, laying the groundwork for what would become known as Taoism. This Chinese philosophy, credited to Lao Tzu, advocates withdrawing from society in order to achieve societal and personal peace. The Taoists believe that life should be lived in tune with nature, with simplicity and spontaneity.

### 3. Zhuangzi (c. 300 BCE)

- The philosopher Zhuangzi rejected his contemporaries' alternative ideologies in favor of Taoism, arguing that all things exist in balance and that no theory can be favored over another due to the subjective nature of experience.
- Zhuangzi expanded on the ideas of his predecessor Lao Tzu in his works, proposing simplicity as a method of attaining Tao. His thesis changed the Tao's emphasis away from a binary of good and evil and toward relativism, arguing that the cosmos does not work on absolutes.

### 4. Confucianism (c. 500 BCE)

- Confucius, as a member of the newly formed Chinese literati, wrote in reaction to the several feudal kingdoms battling for survival, as an unparalleled social upheaval empowered commoners to assume positions of political significance.

## 5. Euthyphro Problem

- Socrates sparked an ethical discussion by casting doubt on the significance of old customs.
- If a man's own customs were not adequate, on what basis could he establish his morality? This quandary became the central theme of Sophocles' dialogues.
- According to him, an unexamined existence was unworthy of living, and hence it is important to dismantle the crutches of tradition in order to properly comprehend conduct.

# CONCLUSION

- ▶ Professional ethics is significant because it dictates to professionals a set of standards regarding how a professional should act towards the people with whom he or she has professional relationships.
- ▶ From a philosophical standpoint, ethics is concerned with morality and how individuals conduct in terms of goodness or badness.
- ▶ Professional ethics express the essence of a professional society. They are a symbol to focus on, support, identify with, and advocate for. Professional ethics should eventually benefit individuals who rely on those who work in professional jobs.

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