

# ENGINEERING ETHICS – MORAL DILEMMAS

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- Understanding Complex Ethical Decisions
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# INTRODUCTION

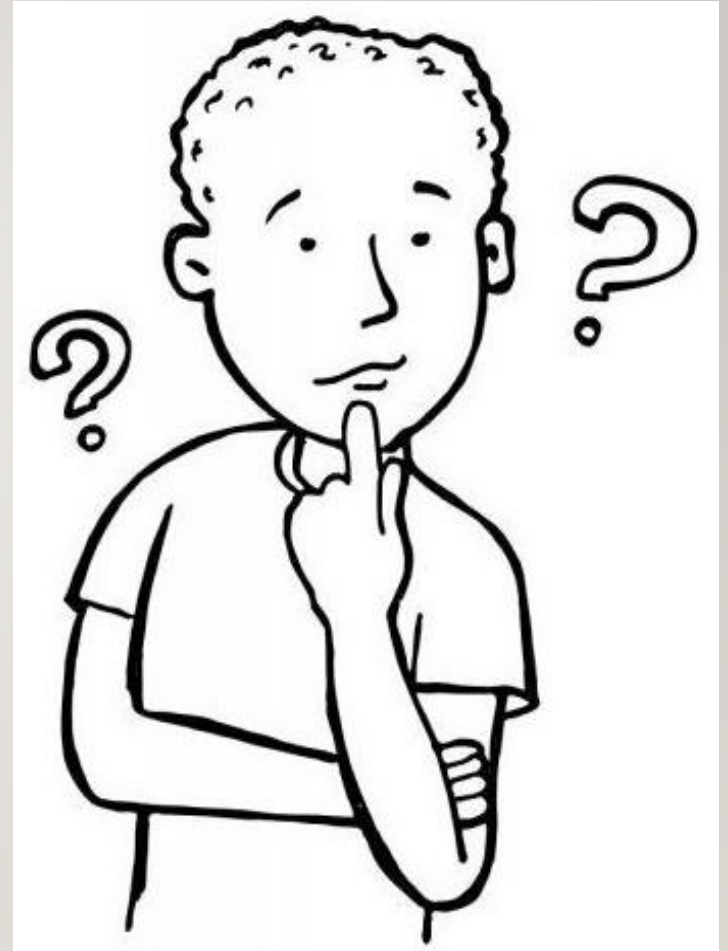
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- Engineering ethics involves complex decision-making.
- Moral dilemmas arise when moral reasons conflict.
- Common elements: Rights, Duties, Obligations, Goods.

# WHAT IS A MORAL DILEMMA?

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- A situation where making the “right” decision is difficult.
- Conflicting moral values prevent clear decisions.
- Requires critical thinking and ethical reasoning.



# TYPES OF COMPLEXITIES

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- Vagueness
- Conflicting reasons
- Disagreement

# VAGUENESS

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- Unclear if an action is right or wrong.
- Involves unwritten rules:
  - Loyalty
  - Respect
  - Confidentiality

# CONFLICTING REASONS

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- Multiple options with internal moral conflict.
- Priorities depend on:
  - Knowledge
  - Moral values
- Reasoning behind the choice is critical.



# DISAGREEMENT

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- More than one acceptable solution.
- Final choice depends on:
  - Context
  - Most probable outcome
- Requires interpretation and analysis.

# STEPS TO RESOLVE MORAL DILEMMAS

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1. Identification
2. Ranking
3. Inquiries
4. Discussions
5. Final Solution



# STEP I – IDENTIFICATION

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- Understand the issue.
- Know the duties and responsibilities.
- Identify:
  - Moral factors
  - Competing rights
  - Conflicting ideas

# STEP 2 – RANKING

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- List and prioritize considerations.
- Use moral aspects for ranking.
- Avoid bias or partiality.

# STEP 3 – INQUIRIES

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- Gather all facts.
- Explore alternative actions.
- Assess implications.

# STEP 4 – DISCUSSIONS

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- Involve multiple viewpoints.
- Promote dialogue and debate.
- Enable comprehensive analysis.

# STEP 5 – FINAL SOLUTION

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- Analyze truths and flaws.
- Consider all perspectives and facts.
- Select the most ethical resolution.

# CONCLUSION

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- Moral dilemmas require:
  - Structured thinking
  - Ethical frameworks
  - Collaboration
- Helps engineers make informed and ethical decisions.