

# CASE CONSIDERATIONS

AS YOU PREPARE YOUR INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP RESPONSES

## CASE CONSIDERATIONS

### UTILITARIANISM + ASET

Utilitarianism prioritizes the actions/behaviours that yield the greatest good for the most people. ASET's Code of Ethics is based on utilitarianist thinking.

Remember: Thinking about/discussing a situation is VERY different from being directly involved/making a decision about a situation.

### INDIVIDUALS AND MORAL FOUNDATIONS

Not everyone would resolve the case in the same way because ethics are personal and related to one's moral foundations.

Where moral foundations are concerned, there is no abstract "right" or "wrong" in the minds of each of us, which is why these types of discussions can spur passionate debate.

Making ethical decisions in a professional environment is done by considering multiple criteria.

## CRITERIA FOR ETHICAL JUDGMENT

### OBLIGATIONS

- To ourselves
- To clients and customers
- To co-workers
- To the community
- To society as a whole
- To profession
- To family

### CONSEQUENCES

- Likelihood
- To what degree and to whom
- Immediate or delayed
- Positive or negative
- Intentional; unintentional
- Predictable; unpredictable
- Obvious, subtle

### IDEALS; MORAL FOUNDATIONS

- Care/harm
- Equality/fairness
- Sanctity/degradation
- Loyalty/betrayal
- Authority/subversion
- Equity/Proportionality

### ASET'S CODE OF CONDUCT

1. safety, health and welfare
2. responsibility in line with qualifications
3. evidence-based opinions
4. integrity and confidentiality
5. appropriate compensation
6. ongoing professional development
7. fairness, honesty, courtesy, good faith, credit
8. transparency of consequences
9. reporting hazardous practices
10. promoting the ASET fields