**Fundamental 29: Act with integrity**

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*Demonstrate an unwavering to doing the right thing in every action and decision, especially when no one’s looking. Always tell the truth, no matter the consequences. If you make a mistake, own up to it, apologize and make it right.*

It can feel horrible reporting yourself for something you did wrong, as you know there are consequences

to come. It can be tempting to avoid bringing attention to an issue and thus avoiding any negative

effects from the situation. Though our gut feeling could be to avoid negative consequences, the best

course is always the truth.

If we do not own our mistakes, we ruin the view others have of us and degrade our own

trustworthiness. Oftentimes consequences when the truth is revealed are worse than dealing with a

problem head on. When our actions are motivated by self-preservation and we don’t act with integrity,

we end up harming others and the company.

If we do own up our mistakes, there often are unpleasant consequences, but we preserve our character.