**Tutorial 2: Introduction to Ethics and the Law**

1. Can you think of some acts that are:

1. Both immoral and illegal?

* Theft
* Fraud
* Abuse
* Murder

1. Legal but immoral?

* Cheating on your spouse
* Lying
* Cursing at someone
* Abortion

1. Illegal but morally acceptable?

* Avoid paying taxes due to poor financial situation
* Hacking another person’s computer for revenge on what they did
* Stealing from the rich to support the poor
* Chewing gum

2. Define law and ethics and provide an example of each. List three differences between law and ethics.

Laws: Regulates affairs of community and conduct of members

Ethics: Ethics is concerned with what is right and good for individuals and society

* Laws are something one should not break to preserve the peace of society while ethics are values or actions of an individual based on their beliefs.
* Laws are something that are enforced upon society while ethics are not enforced
* Violation of law is punishable, and one might face fines, jail time and even death based on the laws they have broken. However, there will not be any punishment for violation of ethics.

3. Explain the Consequence-based principle and the Rule-based principle in ethical reasoning. Provide your own examples to explain both principles.

Consequence-based principle focuses on the action while Rule-based principle focuses on the ethics of the individual.

4. Which one of the following statements best suit the justification for ethics to be taught together with law?

(a) Ethics can make people feel guilty if they have done something seriously wrong.

(b) Ethics can effectively ensure that people comply with codes of conduct.

(c) Law alone can never be able to address the problems in the business world.

(d) None of the above.

5. Morality is defined as a/an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

(a) value that can be enforced by law

(b) objectively derived value system

(c) ethical principle reinforced by law

(d) subjectively derived value system

6. What are some of the considerations to take into account when one is looking at ethical justifiability?

Understand the situation

List the various Ethical Reasoning.

Determine which reasoning outweigh the others.

Ethical Pluralism - 2 people may have equally justified ethical views.

7. Tim writes a computer program for his company’s client. At the last moment, Tim discovers that though the computer program is running well, there is an improvement which he can make that would make it run even more efficiently. He informs his boss, Robert, that he can modify the program. However, Robert tells Tim not to do so, but to give the program as it is to the client and they can sell the improved version to the client later for more profit, and the client will not know that Tim could have improved the design so early.

1. What ethical principle is Robert following here?

Egoism

b) However, Tim refuses to do so, as he feels very strongly that the client had paid the company for the best possible software program and to give the client the unimproved computer program would be failing in his duty to the client. What ethical reasoning is Tim following?

Personal Moral Rules