

Southeast University

Course: Engineering Ethics

Faculty: RG

Time: 2 hrs

Final Exam

Marks: 40

Case-1:

A manufacturing company provides jobs for many people in a small town where employment is difficult to find. The company has stayed in the city even though it could find cheaper workers elsewhere because workers are loyal to the company due to the jobs it provides. Over the years, the company has developed a reputation in the town for taking care of its employees and being a responsible corporate citizen.

The manufacturing process used by the company produces a by-product that has flown into the town river for years. The by-product has been considered harmless, but some people who live near the river have reported illnesses. The by-product does not currently violate any anti-pollution laws.

What are the issues of integrity, ethics, and law posed in the case study? What options does the company have, and what should it do and why? Discuss in the light of ethical theories. 20

Case-2:

Towards the end of her senior year of high school, Grace volunteered for a local animal rights organization. Although she was always an animal lover, she had never really considered the issue of animals being raised to be eaten. During her time with the organization, she became passionate about animal rights and became a vegetarian. She was also able to convince her parents to become vegetarians.

Now a new freshman, Grace faces a dilemma. Everyone around here seems to eat meat. Though the dining hall offers plenty of vegetarian options, she is unhappy about the presence of meat as a constant feature among the offerings.

Grace isn't able to put aside her feelings about the suffering of animals. Going by her own experience of having her eyes opened to the cause, Grace is convinced that spreading knowledge about the suffering of farm animals is the only way of converting more people into vegetarians.

On the one hand, she feels she must express her beliefs when sitting at a table with people consuming meat. On the other hand, she knows that directly confronting people about their choices tends to alienate them. She would like to establish good relationships and friendships with the people around her, but she would also like to express her beliefs and teach people about her cause.

Question: Should Grace confront her friends at the dining table? Discuss the ethical issue in the light of ethical theories.

20