

The question before us is whether honesty and integrity can be considered the next most expensive commodities in our modern era, a world fraught with constant challenges.

Those against the motion argue that honesty and integrity are not "expensive" in the sense of requiring extraordinary effort. They contend that these qualities are inherent to our moral compass and require only a simple choice, a matter of aligning our actions with our values. Moreover, they argue that framing integrity as costly risks making it an exclusive virtue, inaccessible to many.

Conversely, those for the motion contend that upholding honesty and ethics in today's world is a constant battle. They highlight the courage required to speak truth to power, resist temptation, and stand by one's convictions. They argue that building a strong moral compass requires resilience and a willingness to swim against the tide, making integrity a lifelong journey rather than a casual stroll.

As we weigh these arguments, it's crucial to acknowledge the complexities of human nature and the multifaceted nature of integrity. While honesty may not always require grand gestures, it's undeniable that upholding it in a world that often rewards dishonesty takes resilience and courage.

It's also essential to recognize that systemic inequalities can create additional barriers to honesty for some individuals. Power dynamics, fear of retaliation, and economic pressures can silence even the most principled individuals. In such situations, integrity can indeed become a luxury, a privilege that not everyone can afford.

Therefore, while honesty and integrity should be fundamental values accessible to all, the reality is that upholding them in the face of adversity requires strength and resilience. In this sense, honesty and integrity can be considered expensive, not in a monetary sense, but in terms of the personal cost and unwavering commitment they demand.

In conclusion, while honesty and integrity should not be exclusive virtues, their consistent practice in today's challenging world requires a level of resilience and courage that is not always easily attainable. Thus, in a world where shortcuts and compromises are often tempting, those who consistently choose the path of integrity are indeed a rare and valuable asset.