

Sarah Files

CprE 394

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Ethics Essay

The purpose of having a code of ethics centers on clarity. The idea is to elaborate on how the company or organization operates in a legal sense as well as focusing the public on its internal values and goals. By having one, employees are made aware of the expectations they are held to as being a part of the company.

When I am faced with a situation that requires myself to look at it from an ethical perspective, I consider my options very carefully. The goal is to make sure I am always on the right side of the line, and when that line isn't quite as clear as I would like it to be, I take certain measures. This often involves asking for guidance from my friends, often my father and then depending on what the situation is, I might even ask my boss for his advice. These suggestions are what I take into consideration when dealing with an ethical situation.

We discussed was the Ford Pinto case very briefly before Professor Dong spoke about one of his experiences regarding ethics. He told us about a college who published around eight articles about his topic of study. Turns out this professor had smudged his results to get his time in the spotlight. We didn't really get to discuss the situation of the article agreed upon.

The Virtue of Ethics that most applied to the Ford Pinto case are responsibility, integrity and honesty. Responsibility to me was the most prominent virtue that Ford should have stuck to, but not adhering to the reasonability they had as an automobile manufacturer caused people to die. Their integrity was also thrown out the window by making vehicles that have a higher tendency to EXPLODE. Lastly, honesty goes in hand with the others by not making the public aware of this defect.

The others are less relevant because charity is the opposite of what Ford did, fidelity could be applied to the situation but I would say their fidelity was to their money and self-discipline was completely absent, but the other three barely beat this virtue out of the top.

I think that this list of virtues covered all the big ones. There could be other 'virtuous' things that could be put on the list, but they would mostly be synonyms of the already existent ones.