**My Code of Ethics - Draft 2**

My perspective of the world, as well as others’, is very unique and I believe my perspective is greatly influenced by society and culture of India as well as the U.S. I was born and raised in India later moved here, to the U.S, when I was 13. I believe in being honest in what I do and working as a member of society over striving for individual success. I also believe that to work as a member of society doesn’t always mean giving up individual rights since they complement each other. In a way, you could say that I am a utilitarian with respect to ethical theories.

My family also plays an important role in my perspective of the world in helping me prepare for various situations that I might face in my life. They have also provided me with basic tools, using which I could achieve anything I set my mind to. These tools are simply basic views and sense I should have for the things I do. These tools show great respect to the religion I follow and at the same time shows me how to appreciate other religions of the society. I make it my responsibility to understand the things I believe in so that I can actually connect with the things in a deeper sense and have greater respect for it. And this code of ethics is simply an extension of things I believe in and how I would act to a particular situation without breaking my core beliefs.

1. Personal
   1. **I will be honest in my words to the best of my knowledge unless it hurts someone else:** I will always speak the truth when talking to someone and will not lie unless it is deemed necessary. I wouldn’t consider lying if the truth would directly result in someone being harmed. I believe lying is acceptable if it results in a net positive result. For example, I would lie to protect my brother from my mom, but not from government.
   2. **I will live in the moment and plan the future based on events of the past unless the past events involve my mistakes:** I will enjoy the moment I live in and not worry too much about past events. However, I will use my experiences from past events to plan for my future. For example, if I fail an exam I will not worry about the failed exam itself but will rather analyze why I failed the exam and try to do better on my future exams. If the past event at question involves my mistakes, I will definitely worry about to analyze the consequences of my mistakes.
   3. **I will give my health the proper attention since individuals’ health is very important for the great good of the society:** I will take good care of my health and seek necessary help when needed. That is, I will not be hesitant to go to a doctor if something seems to be wrong. This would collectively help the greater good of the community since any infections would ideally be stopped early on in its stage. For example, I would definitely get tested for malaria if I ever visit any malaria-infected country, so that I can take necessary action without infecting others in the community.
2. Professional
   1. **I will hold true to my religious beliefs but at the same time will not allow them to interfere with my professional life:** Holding my religious beliefs is essential to my culture and to me. In my professional life, however, I will not let my religious beliefs intervene. For example, I will not let creation ideas of the religion intervene with scientific theories such as The Big Bang.
   2. **I will follow the set hierarchy in professional setting in order to raise any complaints or issue I have in that setting:** When I have complaints or issue regarding inner workings of a system that doesn’t directly affect the public, I will take steps to raise complaints to levels above me one after another, starting from my immediate supervisor. If the issue, however, directly affects the public I will expect the things to go a little faster, still following the hierarchy. In terms of whistleblowing, I wouldn’t consider it for an internal issue but would be my final option for issues that affects the general public.
   3. **I will neither alter any documents that I author nor encourage and support others to do so:** Any piece of a document I author will not be altered in any sense. This alteration includes introducing any piece of data to add strength to the point I would want to prove, removing of data to hide irrelevant information, but this would not include the specific analysis I perform to show how the data proves a point. For example, in a research setting, I will collect and analyze data points in a specific way but will not add points that I do not record, nor will I remove data points.
   4. **I will not harm any animal when an alternative to the purpose exists or when the result is uncertain:** Hurting an animal would be my last reserve for any purpose, whether it be my food or research. When I have vegetarian options for food, I will not rely on animals for my food. In terms of research, I would find other ways we can test a hypothesis, such as GWAS, and would only find animal research acceptable if it is necessary to further test the results. I wouldn’t find animal research acceptable when we do not have a certain outcome in mind. That is, I wouldn’t let people experiment with chemicals when there is an uncertainty with regards to the side effects.
   5. **I will be willing to perform any kind of research as long as it holds canon 2.4 and 3.1 true:** I will perform any research including but not limited to, animal research, and human subjects research as long as it holds canons 2.4 and 3.1 true. That is, the outcome is known or at least has a reasonable expectation and the selection process treats everyone equally. One other thing to keep in mind is that the experiment should be tested in lower order animals first before being implemented in higher order animals.
3. Societal
   1. **I will treat everyone equally when making individual decisions but in making decisions that affect the community as a whole this might be violated:** I will treat everyone equally and will not discriminate against sex, age or any differences between humans. Differences between humans, however, can be violated when a large group is under a direct threat. For example, if a nuclear attack on White House is inevitable, I would first protect secretaries and the President over tour guides and tourists.
   2. **I will help others with everything I have unless it requires breaking of my core beliefs:** I will help others in the society with what I have when needed. However, I might deny helping if the requiring help shows that I would have to break my core beliefs. This does include Organ Donation where I have already signed up to donate my organs upon death. For example, I will buy someone meat if they are hungry and want to eat meat, but will not help if they force me to eat it since I am a vegetarian.
   3. **I will respect other religions with the same respect I expect from others and give to my religion:** I have great respect for my religion and expect others to give a similar respect to it. In a similar way, I will respect others’ religion as well. I will also provide others to hold their beliefs true to them. For example, I will respect Islam despite the rising negative connotations to the religion and will respect others who believe in it.
4. **I will follow above canons with the highest priority unless a conflict arises and do my best to improve them over the course of my life:** In formulating these canons I have documented few of the most important items that I follow and would like to follow in future as well. This particular canon reinforces other canons and thus motivates me to follow all other canons with equal priority unless a conflict arises. In this case, the canon that is most appropriate to the situation would take higher priority. For example, in a professional setting canon, 2.1 would take higher priority over 3.3, meaning I wouldn’t follow canon 3.3 when another person following a different religion disregards Big Bang Theory due to his religious concerns. All members of the society, despite their religious beliefs, would need to agree to the scientific theories for future scientific progress.