Ben Fristad

Professor Lemelin

CSCD 202

8 January 2020

Being Your Best Self

**Moral Awareness**

**3. Would you agree that if you have your ethical antennae up that you will be more likely to detect an ethical issue you face than if you are focusing completely on pleasing your boss, being part of your team, or perhaps meeting a production quota? What does that tell you about how you have to approach your job if you wish to be a moral person?**

To be a moral person in the workplace, I feel that it is necessary to approach a job in a way where there are more goals pleasing your boss and meeting your production quota.

**4. Who should be primarily responsible for keeping ethical considerations in your frame of reference as you make decisions in the workplace? Your boss? Or you? Why?**

I feel that you and your boss are equally responsible for keeping ethical considerations in your frame of reference because you only have so much power as an employee, so your boss also needs to do what he can to not blind his employees with the idea that production is the only important task within the company.

**5. If you do not see the ethical dimensions of a question that you must resolve and you are fortunate enough to accidentally make the correct ethical choice, have you really acted ethically?**

If someone accidently makes an ethical choice, then they did not really act in an ethical way. I feel that someone is only acting ethically if they consciously make the right decision.

**Teaching Blackface**

**1. Do you think Mr. Barron was demonstrating moral awareness or a lack of moral awareness by showing the video of the minstrel show? Explain your position.**

I feel that Mr. Barron was demonstrating moral awareness by educating the children about how people used to depict African-Americans. His decision to show the film to the children was to educate them, not to discriminate.

**2. Do you agree with the assistant principal’s decision to shut down the video during the observation? Was she demonstrating moral awareness or lack of moral awareness? Explain your position.**

I do not agree with the assistant principal’s decision to shut down the video during class because it was intended to be an educational video. In fact, I feel that she had a lack of moral awareness for making that decision. She couldn’t make the connection that the videos purpose was the show the children what had happened in the past.

**3. Should Mr. Barron have warned his students that some of them could have been offended by the racism portrayed in the video? Why or why not? Is it ever necessary for teachers to provide disclaimers about content that they use in their classrooms? Explain.**

I think it would have been a good idea to warn the students about the video incase they did take offense to the video. It is sometimes necessary for teachers to provide disclaimers about content that they use in their classrooms incase they take offense to a certain issue; for example, gore, swearing and racism.

**4. Should teachers be prevented from showing examples (books, films, photos, etc.) of historical events and/or practices that are considered racially insensitive by today’s standards? Why or why not?**

I believe that it is important for teachers to show historical events that involve racially insensitive ideas because it will show the students why they should not make the same mistakes. The historical events will give examples of the repercussions for the racist actions as well as showing the physical and mental damage that racism can cause.

**5. What do you think is the best way to teach about stereotypes? Is it possible to do this without offending someone? Explain.**

I feel that there is no best way to teach about stereotypes because some people receive information different than others. Additionally, some people get offended easier than others; however, I do feel that educating people about stereotypes needs to be taught in an informative way such as history, rather than as definitions.

**6. Many people viewed political correctness as the main issue of this case. Can you think of an example in which political correctness promoted ethical behavior? How about an example in which political correctness led to unethical behavior?**

Political correctness promoted ethical behavior in events such as Civil Rights Act. Many people understood that the segregation between whites and black people was very unethical. However, political correctness can also lead to unethical behavior; for example, violent protests. People can be so passionate about political correctness that they actually engage in violent behavior.

**Moral Action**

1. **Can you think of a situation where you wanted to do the right thing, but found yourself unable to do it?  What prevented you from acting according to your values?**

A situation where I wanted to do the right thing but couldn’t was when I low balled a guy of Facebook Marketplace for a computer because it had been listed for a long time. I assumed that he would take any offer that he could get.

1. **Can you think of a situation where it was difficult to do the right thing, but you managed to do it?  What factors were present that enabled you to live up to your values?**

I come across plenty of situations where I struggled to do the right thing. Most of them involve guilting my family members into letting me eat their left over food from good restaurants. However, there have also been plenty of instances where I restrained myself. The factor that enabled me to live up to my values were the enjoyment they would receive from eating the food.

1. **Can you imagine an ethically-tinged problem that you may run into in your future personal or professional life?  How do you hope that you will respond when you encounter that problem?**

If I come across an ethical problem in my personal or professional life, I hope that I can convince myself to do the right thing.

1. **What does it mean to take “moral ownership”?  Can you think of a situation where you took moral ownership?  And of one where you did not?**

To take moral ownership means to control yourself and make sure that you make the right decision. I took moral ownership when I didn’t eat my sisters KFC that she left in the fridge. I did not take moral ownership when I allowed myself to rip a dude off on craigslist.

1. **How does a person go about deciding how and when to take moral ownership?**

A person goes about deciding how and when to take moral ownership by weighing their pros and cons. For example, before someone steals, they will think about the benefit they will receive for steals, but they will also think about the odds of getting caught as well as how it will affect the store owner who paid for the item in the first place.