PRECONVENTIONAL

Stage 1: Punishment orientation.

Obedience to authority is considered.

Example: "He shouldn't steal the drug because he might get caught and be punished" (avoiding punishment)

Stage 2: Pleasure-seeking orientation. Action is determined by one's own

needs. Example: "It won't do him any good to steal the drug because his wife will be dead by the time he gets out of jail" (self-interest)

CONVENTIONAL

Stage 3: Good boy/good girl orientation. Action determined by the approval of their peer group. Example: "He shouldn't steal the drug because others will think he is a thief. His wife will not want to be saved by

stealing" (avoiding disapproval)

Stage 4: Authority orientation. Should uphold the law at all costs. Follow social rules. Example: "Although his wife needs the drug, he should not break the law to get it. His wife's condition doesn't justify stealing" (traditional morality of authority)

POSTCONVENTIONAL

Stage 5: Social-contract orientation. Rules are open to question but are

upheld for the good of the community. Example: "He should not steal the drug. The druggist response is unfair but mutual respect for the rights of others must be maintained." (social contract)

Stage 6: Morality of individual principles. High value is placed on justice,

dignity, and equality. Example: "He should steal the drug but alert authorities he has done it. He will have to face a penalty, but he will

save a human life." (self-chosen ethical principles)

