**Business ethics**

Businesses write a code of ethics to inform and remind management, employees and investors of the values they want to emphasize.

An example of a code of ethics.

* To operate within the laws of a country
* To do business with only ethical businesses
* To treat customers and suppliers in a manner that the business would like to be treated.
* To refrain from exploiting employees customers and suppliers
* To be truthful at all times.
* To avoid practices that would adversely affect anyone.

**Ethical issues in business**

The following are all unethical and in some cases illegal.

* Executives paid generous bonuses even when business makes a loss
* Disposal of wastes in a careless way that harms the environment.
* Tax evasion
* Manipulation of financial information (‘creative accounting’)

**The following are examples of growing public awareness of the need for businesses to act responsibly**

* **Opening Pandora's Box: The new wave of Land Grabbing by Extractive Industries and the Devastating Impact on Earth - a report launched on 29 February 2012.**

**This website shows the alarming rate of acceleration and expansion of mining companies and how sustainability is being compromised.**

<http://www.gaiafoundation.org>

* ***Super Size Me*** is a 2004 American documentary film directed by and starring Morgan Spurlock an American independent filmmaker. Spurlock's film follows a 30-day period from February 1 to March 2, 2003 during which he claims to eat only McDonald's food. The film documents this lifestyle's drastic effect on Spurlock's physical and psychological well-being, and explores the fast food industry's corporate influence, including how it encourages poor nutrition for its own profit.

[***http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0390521/***](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0390521/)

* **Movie: Erin Brokovitch** (2000) starring Julia Roberts, Albert Finney, David Brisbin

This movie is based on a true story. An unemployed single mother becomes a legal assistant and almost single-handedly brings down a California power company – Pacific Gas and Electric Company, accused of polluting a city's water supply with hexavalent chromium.

<http://education-portal.com/academy/lesson/business-ethics-in-contemporary-businesses.html>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H9_yhkoy09M>