

Chapter 1 - Morality, Ethics, and Human Behavior

Multiple Choice

1. According to the text, ethical issues involve broad social questions, often concerning the government's social control mechanisms and:
- a. the cost to the public.
 - b. the impact on those being governed.
 - c. the influence of religion.
 - d. public opinion.

ANSWER: b

2. Which of the following statements is not an example of an ethical issue?
- a. A legislature deciding what sentences to attach to certain crimes
 - b. A governor signing a bill that would decriminalize the use of soft drugs
 - c. A chief of police enacting a policy meant to reduce racial profiling
 - d. A prosecutor deciding which charges to file in a particular case

ANSWER: d

3. Which of the following is not an example of an ethical issue as defined in the text?
- a. whether to legally recognize same-sex marriages
 - b. how to deal with an influx of immigrants
 - c. whether to abolish the death penalty
 - d. how to punish one's teenage child for skipping school

ANSWER: d

4. According to the text, which of the following represents the first step in the process of ethical analysis?
- a. considering the possible outcomes
 - b. collecting input from others
 - c. reviewing any relevant policies
 - d. determining if there is any relevant law

ANSWER: d

5. According to the text, the first step necessary to clarify any dilemma is:
- a. identify of potential values involved
 - b. review all the facts.
 - c. identify all possible moral dilemmas.
 - d. interview all those involved.

ANSWER: b

6. Which of the following is not one of the steps necessary to analyze ethical dilemmas presented in your text?
- a. identify the potential values involved
 - b. review all the facts

- c. decide the most immediate moral or ethical issue
- d. seek the advice of moral or ethical judges

ANSWER: d

7. According to the text, the last step necessary to clarify any dilemma is:

- a. identify of potential values involved.
- b. review all the facts.
- c. identify all possible moral dilemmas.
- d. resolve the ethical dilemma by using some means of decision making.

ANSWER: d

8. The power and authority to choose one of two or more alternative behaviors is known as:

- a. discretion.
- b. coercion
- c. value analysis.
- d. duty

ANSWER: a

9. All public servants have the following characteristics except:

- a. paid from public purse.
- b. job security regardless of performance.
- c. special duties.
- d. held to higher standard.

ANSWER: b

10. Which of the following is not one of the ethical principles that govern public servants identified by the Josephson Institute?

- a. accountability
- b. democratic leadership
- c. public service
- d. specialized education

ANSWER: d

11. Which of the following is not one of Braswell's reasons to study ethics?

- a. develop critical thinking skills
- b. become aware and open to ethical issues
- c. develop hindsight
- d. become more personally responsible

ANSWER: c

12. Most behaviors that might be judged as ethical or unethical for criminal justice professionals fall into four major categories. Which of the following does not represent one of these four categories?

- a. theft
- b. malfeasance
- c. harassment
- d. off-duty drug use

ANSWER: d

13. The term _____ refers to what is judged as good conduct.

- a. values
- b. morality
- c. honor
- d. goodness

ANSWER: b

14. The discipline investigating the meaning of ethical systems and whether they are relative or are universal is known as:

- a. normative ethics.
- b. applied ethics.
- c. forensic ethics.
- d. meta-ethics.

ANSWER: d

15. _____ ethics determine what people ought to do and defines moral duties based on ethical systems or other means of analysis.

- a. Applied
- b. Normative
- c. Professional
- d. Conventional

ANSWER: b

16. Employing ethical principles to address specific issues such as social research or medical practice is called:

- a. meta-ethics
- b. normative ethics
- c. applied ethics
- d. practical ethics

ANSWER: c

17. While duties are what you are expected to do, _____ are commendable but not required actions.

- a. functions
- b. supererogatories
- c. imperfect duties
- d. obligations

ANSWER: b

18. An on-duty lifeguard who runs into the ocean to rescue a drowning child, risking his or her own life to do so, has performed a(n):

- a. professional duty.
- b. imperfect duty.
- c. supererogatory action.
- d. values-driven duty

ANSWER: a

19. Supererogatories are commendable actions that are:

- a. not required.
- b. required of those in a particular profession
- c. legally required of everyone.
- d. required of those observing a particular religion

ANSWER: a

20. Which of the following is not an example of an imperfect duty?

- a. a duty to be honest
- b. a duty to be generous
- c. a duty to take your life
- d. a duty to help the poor

ANSWER: c

21. If personal qualities such as honesty or kindness are important to you, these traits would be:

- a. ethics.
- b. values.
- c. morals.
- d. supererogatories

ANSWER: b

22. Which of the following statements about values is false?

- a. An explicit value system is a part of every ethical system.
- b. Our behavior is influenced by our value system.
- c. Values cannot be empirically verified.
- d. The value of survival is unique to Western ethical systems.

ANSWER: d

23. The use of facts and objective reasoning to most effectively reach a decision or understand a problem is known as:

- a. qualitative analysis.
- b. discretion
- c. ethical balance.
- d. critical thinking.

ANSWER: d

24. Which of the following best describes a situation in which an individual is faced with at least two courses of action and the decision is difficult?

- a. ethical issue
- b. ethical dilemma
- c. social dilemma
- d. ethical crisis

ANSWER: b

25. According to the text, humans are uniquely capable of behaving morally because of our capacity for:

- a. reason.
- b. language.
- c. long-term memory.
- d. religion.

ANSWER: a

26. Those exempt from legal and moral culpability include all of the following except:

- a. the insane.
- b. the young
- c. the poor.
- d. one whose actions were coerced.

ANSWER: c

27. Which of the following would not be considered a moral judgment?

- a. Abortion results in the death of a fetus.
- b. Capital punishment is justified in certain circumstances.
- c. Rich people should give back to the community.
- d. People who are capable of work should not be given welfare.

ANSWER: a

28. According to the text, there are four elements to those behavioral decisions that can be judged under ethical standards. Which of the following is one of these elements?

- a. The person evaluating the action must be a direct witness in order to judge the act in question.
- b. Value systems are similar throughout the world.
- c. Coerced actions may be judged.
- d. Behavior must stem from free will in order to be judged under ethical standards.

ANSWER: d

29. We usually discuss moral or immoral behavior only in cases in which the behavior significantly:

- a. threatens nature.

- b. affects another person or persons.
- c. deviates from the norm.
- d. deviates from one's usual behavior.

ANSWER: b

30. Which of the following is an example of an ethical dilemma?

- a. racial profiling
- b. Congress decriminalizing soft drugs
- c. the Patriot Act
- d. a judge reinstating a death sentence in a case

ANSWER: d

Larry's house has caught fire, and he is trapped inside. The neighbors called 911. Two firefighters and one of the neighbors (an accountant) entered the house in an attempt to save Larry. Another neighbor tore away the screening around Larry's porch so that his dog could run to safety. The neighbor who entered the burning house was performing a:

31. The neighbor who entered the burning house was performing a:

- a. moral imperative.
- b. supererogatory action.
- c. professional duty.
- d. discretionary duty.

ANSWER: b

Larry's house has caught fire, and he is trapped inside. The neighbors called 911. Two firefighters and one of the neighbors (an accountant) entered the house in an attempt to save Larry. Another neighbor tore away the screening around Larry's porch so that his dog could run to safety. The neighbor who entered the burning house was frightened but had always valued the concept of heroism. Now faced with the opportunity, he chose to act heroically. In this example, heroism is an example of a(n):

32. The neighbor who entered the burning house was frightened but had always valued the concept of heroism. Now faced with the opportunity, he chose to act heroically. In this example, heroism is an example of a(n):

- a. imperfect duty.
- b. universal obligation.
- c. personal obligation.
- d. moral obligation.

ANSWER: a

Larry's house has caught fire, and he is trapped inside. The neighbors called 911. Two firefighters and one of the neighbors (an accountant) entered the house in an attempt to save Larry. Another neighbor tore away the screening around Larry's porch so that his dog could run to safety. The neighbor who tore away the screening hesitated at first

because he was of the belief that it was wrong to destroy another's property. At the same time, he also was of the belief that he should rescue the dog. These conflicting beliefs constituted a(n):

33. The neighbor who tore away the screening hesitated at first because he was of the belief that it was wrong to destroy another's property. At the same time, he also was of the belief that he should rescue the dog. These conflicting beliefs constituted a
- a. "contradiction of values."
 - b. supererogatory.
 - c. ethical dilemma.
 - d. legal contradiction.

ANSWER: c

Larry's house has caught fire, and he is trapped inside. The neighbors called 911. Two firefighters and one of the neighbors (an accountant) entered the house in an attempt to save Larry. Another neighbor tore away the screening around Larry's porch so that his dog could run to safety. As opposed to the neighbor, the firefighters who attempted to save Larry were performing a(n):

34. As opposed to the neighbor, the firefighters who attempted to save Larry were performing a(n):
- a. duty.
 - b. discretionary act.
 - c. imperfect duty.
 - d. supererogatory.

ANSWER: a

John, a mentally handicapped adult, is charged with arson. Upon hearing the court-appointed psychologist's report and reviewing the defendant's documented history of mental illness, the judge dismissed the criminal charges. The judge has determined that John is not to be held responsible because he (John) lacks:

35. The judge has determined that John is not to be held responsible because he (John) lacks:
- a. wholesight.
 - b. discretion.
 - c. a proper value system.
 - d. free will.

ANSWER: d

John, a mentally handicapped adult, is charged with arson. Upon hearing the court-appointed psychologist's report and reviewing the defendant's documented history of mental illness, the judge dismissed the criminal charges. By obtaining the facts and then using objective reasoning to most effectively reach a decision, the judge is exhibiting:

36. By obtaining the facts and then using objective reasoning to most effectively reach a

decision, the judge is exhibiting:

- a. wholesight.
- b. critical thinking.
- c. legal discretion.
- d. a value system.

ANSWER: b

John, a mentally handicapped adult, is charged with arson. Upon hearing the court-appointed psychologist's report and reviewing the defendant's documented history of mental illness, the judge dismissed the criminal charges. By relating his ethical principles to this specific issue, the judge is providing an example of:

37. By relating his ethical principles to this specific issue, the judge is providing an example of:

- a. meta-ethics.
- b. normative ethics.
- c. applied ethics.
- d. universal ethics.

ANSWER: c

Officer Smith is patrolling a city park at night. He comes across a man and woman kissing in a parked car, and tells them that it is not legal to be in the park after dark and that they need to move along. Later, he comes across two men in a parked car. Instead of telling them to move on, Officer Smith writes a citation for the driver. By allowing the first couple to leave without being cited, despite the fact that technically they were guilty of an infraction, the Officer Smith was exhibiting:

38. By allowing the first couple to leave without being cited, despite the fact that technically they were guilty of an infraction, the Officer Smith was exhibiting:

- a. normative ethics.
- b. malfeasance.
- c. discretion.
- d. an ethical dilemma.

ANSWER: c

Officer Smith is patrolling a city park at night. He comes across a man and woman kissing in a parked car, and tells them that it is not legal to be in the park after dark and that they need to move along. Later, he comes across two men in a parked car. Instead of telling them to move on, Officer Smith writes a citation for the driver. The officer's perception of correct behavior and his "moral duty" is based on his ethical system. This is known as:

39. The officer's perception of correct behavior and his "moral duty" is based on his ethical system. This is known as:

- a. professional ethics.
- b. normative ethics.

- c. supererogative duty.
- d. imperfect duty.

ANSWER: b

Officer Smith is patrolling a city park at night. He comes across a man and woman kissing in a parked car, and tells them that it is not legal to be in the park after dark and that they need to move along. Later, he comes across two men in a parked car. Instead of telling them to move on, Officer Smith writes a citation for the driver. By allowing his personal views to result in unequal treatment of members of the public, Officer Smith is in violation of his:

40. By allowing his personal views to result in unequal treatment of members of the public, Officer Smith is in violation of his:
- a. professional ethics.
 - b. normative ethics.
 - c. supererogative duty.
 - d. imperfect duty.

ANSWER: a

True / False

41. The primary distinction between ethical issues and ethical dilemmas is that issues are broad and dilemmas are specific.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

42. The first step in analyzing an ethical dilemma is to consider the underlying values of each of the involved parties.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

43. Prosecutors' primary ethical duty is to pursue a conviction.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

44. According to your text, prosecutors face the most public scrutiny of all criminal justice professionals.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

45. In common usage, the terms “ethical” and “moral” are often considered as being interchangeable.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

46. Supererogatories are actions that a moral person must perform.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

47. Imperfect duties are general duties that should be upheld but do not have a specific application as to when or how.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

48. Values are capable of scientific proof.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

49. Morals require or prohibit specific behaviors.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

50. All behaviors involve questions of ethics.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

51. Exploring with one’s heart as well as one’s mind is known as “wholesight.”

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

52. An applied ethics approach presumes that individuals generally prefer to do what is right.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

53. Moral judgments must involve an actual act, not just a thought or belief.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

54. Moral culpability is assigned to all human adults since we all have the ability to exercise free will.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

55. We make ethical judgments using rationales derived from traditional and historical ethical systems.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

Completion

56. Ethical _____ are broad social questions, often concerning the government's social control mechanisms and the impact on those governed.

ANSWER: issues

57. We use _____ when the right thing to do is not clear.

ANSWER: ethical analysis

58. The term refers to the power to make a decision or choice.

ANSWER: discretion

59. According to the text, is usually the reason given for criminalizing certain forms of behavior.

ANSWER: public safety

60. Many people suffer from personal crises when their conflict with their consciences.

ANSWER: actions

61. The study of ethics is especially important for criminal justice professionals because the criminal justice system is uniquely involved in .

ANSWER: coercion

62. have the power to define behavior as illegal and, therefore, punishable.

ANSWER: Legislators

63. The term refers to exploring issues with one's heart as well as one's mind.

ANSWER: wholesight

64. The study and analysis of what constitutes good or bad conduct is called .

ANSWER: ethics

65. refers to the use of ethical principles to resolve specific issues.

ANSWER: Applied ethics

66. is the discipline investigating the meaning of ethical systems and whether they are relative or universal.

ANSWER: Meta-ethics

67. defines moral duties based on ethical systems.

ANSWER: Normative ethics

68. The term refers to applied ethics relevant to a particular occupation or profession.

ANSWER: professional ethics

69. The term refers to an action that is commendable but is not required.

ANSWER: supererogatory

70. "Honesty" and "generosity" can be considered _____ because they are judgments of desirability, worth, or importance.

ANSWER: values

Essay

71. Compare and contrast ethical issues and ethical dilemmas. Provide an example of each.

ANSWER: Answers will vary

72. List and discuss the five steps used to clarify any ethical dilemma that are presented in the text.

ANSWER: Answers will vary

73. List and discuss the elements that all professionals in the criminal justice system have in common.

ANSWER: Answers will vary

74. List and discuss Felkenes' reasons why it is important for criminal justice professionals to study ethics. Pay particular attention to the aspects of criminal justice occupations that make it so critical that we study and understand ethics.

ANSWER: Answers will vary

75. Compare and contrast morals and ethics.

ANSWER: Answers will vary

76. List and discuss the four branches of ethics presented in the text.

ANSWER: Answers will vary

77. Compare and contrast duties and supererogatories. Give an example of each.

ANSWER: Answers will vary

78. Discuss the role played by free will when it comes to judging one's behavior in terms of ethics.

ANSWER: Answers will vary

79. Consider a judge who must determine whether a 16-year-old who committed a violent crime should be tried as an adult. Identify the ethical dilemma(s) the judge faces and describe how she might arrive at an ethical decision.

ANSWER: Answers will vary

80. According to the text, most behaviors might be judged as ethical or unethical for criminal justice professionals fall into four major categories. List and discuss these four categories and provide an example of each.

ANSWER: Answers will vary