

Chapter 2-Police Professionalism
Police Ethics: A Matter of Character, 2nd Edition

TRUE/FALSE

1. Some people argue that the police have been professionals since the end of the political era and the onset of the reform era.

ANS: T PTS: 1 REF: pg. 25

2. There has been one era of police professionalism.

ANS: F PTS: 1 REF: pg. 25

3. The idea of the professions emerged in the Middle Ages as a by-product of the development of the university.

ANS: T PTS: 1 REF: pg. 25

4. So long as you have a job on a full-time basis, you are considered a professional.

ANS: F PTS: 1 REF: pg. 26

5. Internal affairs sections were created during the political era.

ANS: F PTS: 1 REF: pg. 27

6. Being a modern police officer requires a systematized body of knowledge that must be obtained from high school, college, the police academy, and in-service training experiences.

ANS: T PTS: 1 REF: pg. 28

7. Police academies are typically fifteen to twenty hour long experiences.

ANS: F PTS: 1 REF: pg. 29

8. Traditionally, police officer unions in America work closely with and support internal affairs.

ANS: F PTS: 1 REF: pg. 31

9. The command and control leadership functions in modern American policing create a dynamic that supports collegial problem solving.

ANS: F PTS: 1 REF: pg. 31

10. Muir's professional police officer must possess both "passion and perspective."

ANS: T PTS: 1 REF: pg. 34

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. Historically, police professionalism has been described as
- a. the replacement of the volunteer night watch by paid full-time police officers in London
 - b. a militaristic approach to reform perceived corruption
 - c. the possession of academic experience and a body of knowledge unknown to laypeople
 - d. all of the above**

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: pg. 25

2. The history of policing includes
- a. the political era
 - b. the reform era
 - c. the professional era
 - d. all of the above**

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: pg. 26

3. Professions emerged
- a. in the Middle Ages
 - b. in the Dark Ages
 - c. in the Modern Age
 - d. none of the above**

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: pg. 25

4. What distinguished early professionals from others was that
- a. they were royalty
 - b. they could read and write
 - c. they were noble born
 - d. they could vote

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: pg. 25

5. In order to be a modern professional, one must
- a. have a part-time job
 - b. be male
 - c. have a full-time job
 - d. none of the above**

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: pg. 28

6. Professionals
- a. possess knowledge available to the general public
 - b. are typically regulated by external organizations
 - c. operate in an authoritarian, command-driven structure
 - d. none of the above**

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: pg. 28

7. The creator of the first modern professional police department was
- a. Sir Robert Peel
 - b. J. Edgar Hoover
 - c. Commissioner Gordon
 - d. Chief O'Hara

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: pg. 25

8. The first modern professional police department was located in
- a. Chicago
 - b. New York
 - c. London
 - d. Boston

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: pg. 25

9. Police officers' knowledge comes from
- a. watching police television shows
 - b. reading true crime books
 - c. high school, college, the police academy and in-service training experiences

d. life in general

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: pg. 28

10. Professionals must possess all of these characteristics except

- a. ethics
- b. a diploma
- c. discipline
- d. specialized education

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: pg. 29

11. Police academies

- a. were first created under Robert Peel
- b. have replaced the need for field training
- c. render ongoing in-service training obsolete
- d. typically are 15–20 week long educational experiences

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: pg. 29

12. A good, professional police officer

- a. is an oxymoron
- b. can only be found in higher ranks
- c. is both an expert and continuing student in multiple areas related to police work
- d. must have had military experience

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: pg. 30

13. When compared to medicine, law, teaching, and engineering,

- a. true professional self-disciplining in policing has achieved the same standard
- b. true professional self-disciplining is not yet the standard method of operation in policing
- c. true professional self-disciplining is not necessary in policing
- d. internal affairs results in the same type of true professional self-disciplining in policing

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: pg. 31

14. Typical police chains of command

- a. create an absence of collegial problem solving
- b. support collegial problem solving
- c. encourage dialog from the bottom up
- d. are consistent with dynamics in other professions

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: pg. 31

15. The text says that, with regards to policing

- a. collegial problem solving exists
- b. command and control leadership supports collegial problem solving
- c. collegial problem solving is absent
- d. leadership development of strategies and subordinates following orders is an example of collegial problem solving

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: pg. 31

16. Community oriented policing (COP)

- a. empowers individual officers to make decisions
- b. disempowers individual officers to make decisions
- c. allows leadership to dictate actions on the street
- d. none of the above

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: pg. 32

17. Community-based policing
- a. continues the typical police chain of command
 - b. disenfranchises the individual officer
 - c. empowers the individual officer
 - d. has no effect on the individual officer

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: pg. 32

18. Muir described the true police professional as
- a. having excellent firearms skills
 - b. being one with at least ten years of police service
 - c. being emotionally detached so that they can do their job
 - d. possessing both passion and perspective

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: pg. 34

19. Muir's ideas of passion mean that
- a. police officers should be compassionate 100% of the time
 - b. police officers must be comfortable using coercive power
 - c. police officers should relax by reading romance novels
 - d. it is ethically unacceptable to use violence or threats

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: pg. 34

20. Extortion
- a. involves obtaining desired behavior from others by using threats to harm something of value to them
 - b. is exercising to the point of exhaustion
 - c. is the opposite of inhalation
 - d. is a religious ceremony to remove an evil spirit

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: pg. 34

21. Police officers may appeal to
- a. a person's better judgment
 - b. a person's logic
 - c. a person's ethics or morality
 - d. all of the above

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: pg. 34

22. Tragic perspective involves
- a. experiencing unfairness
 - b. experiencing calamity
 - c. experiencing disaster
 - d. all of the above

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: pgs. 14-15

23. Tragic perspective
- a. allows police officers to discern understandable reasons why some people commit some crimes
 - b. means that all police officers will ultimately become cynics

- c. aggravates personal responsibility for deviance
- d. does not affect an officer's understanding of the underlying cause of crime

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: pg. 34

24. Muir said that
- a. police should divide the world into "good" people and "bad" people
 - b. police should focus on arresting "bad" people
 - c. dividing the world into "good" people and "bad" people embraces a "cynical perspective"
 - d. police should protect only "good" people

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: pg. 35

25. The cynical perspective
- a. avoids creating different sets of rules for different people
 - b. works against police–community cooperation and the development of faith in police
 - c. prevents creating a situation where police and citizens are mutually suspicious
 - d. makes citizens allies of the police

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: pg. 36

ESSAY

1. The text refers to several different, historical definitions of police "professionalism." Why do the authors take time to point out that wearing uniforms, having grooming standards, and operating under chains of command do not make an occupation a "profession"?

ANS:

Examine the various components of a profession: specialized training, self-discipline, collegiality, etc.

PTS: 1 REF: pg. 25|pgs. 27-28

2. Discuss the sociological definition of "professional." Are the police professionals from this perspective? If not, what would it take to make them such?

ANS:

Self-discipline and other aspects are missing.

PTS: 1 REF: pg. 25|pgs. 27-28|Box 2.2 pn pg. 29|pg. 33|pgs. 36-37

3. Applying Muir's tragic perspective, discuss "why there is crime." That is, generate a discussion of the multiple causes of crime that is centered on the idea that tragedy, chance, social circumstances, opportunity, and necessity all drive some people to behave in criminal ways.

ANS:

Sometimes circumstances overwhelm an individual and deviance may occur.

PTS: 1 REF: Box 2.4 on pg. 33|pgs. 34-37

4. The cynical view of the world suggests that there is a "we" and a "they" that divides people. It is juxtaposed to Muir's tragic perspective. What would be the consequences if police officers applied one set of rules to those they felt were good people and another set of rules to those they felt were bad people? How would we know which was which? Would we look at ethnic characteristics or religion or gender? What's wrong with this?

ANS:

Inequity would result, and the public would lose confidence in the police as fair arbiters of the law.

PTS: 1

REF: pg. 35

5. Our discussion suggests that the sociological definition of a “profession” includes self-disciplining as a critical element. Construct an essay that differentiates between the form of police officer discipline that occurs at the hands of internal affairs and the *genuine* self-disciplining that sociologists call for. (Hint: The difference hinges upon how police unions have traditionally fought against police accountability in lieu of working as a part of the system that enforces it.)

ANS:

Police unions and fraternal agencies have traditionally fought internal affairs, defending officers who may have committed egregious acts.

PTS: 1

REF: pgs. 30-31