

# Identifying three sources of professional values



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Identifying three sources of professional values and ethics “ Gold existed before barter, money, and systems of economics were invented to use gold. Animals existed before Zoology was invented to study animals. Ethics and morals existed before religions and philosophies were invented to use to study ethics and morals. No religion nor philosophy invented ethics, nor can any religion or philosophy lay claim of being the source or measure of ethics. ” (Gowdy, 2008). The sources of professional values and ethics when researched are open to many interpretations.

Early philosophers debated whether values and ethics were internal or were they an individual will; or could it be social to justify a moral norm? (Chambliss, 1996). One source of professional values and ethics is the self, or individual. When an individual is born, they began to adopt ethics and values, whether they are good or bad. An article in the Business Ethics Quarterly by Bill Shaw sums up the individual as a source of ethics by stating, “ The acquisition of an ethic is not an optional thing. It is, instead, a way of life.

One cannot not have an ethic any more than one cannot not have a personality. An ethic simply “ comes with the territory,” and as one matures that ethic is capable of undergoing change, perhaps even radical change. ” (Shaw, 1997) The organization is a source of the professional values and ethics; it is where individuals within a business environment focus on group conduct. The organization has the code of ethics; these codes are a set of rules that guide individuals in decision-making and behavior. (U. S. Legal Forms Inc, 2010).

There are normally three types of codes; an aspirational code is a statement of ideals to which professionals should strive. The educational code seeks to buttress understanding of its provisions with extensive commentary and interpretation. The regulatory code includes a set of detailed rules to govern professional conduct and to serve as a basis for adjudicating grievances. (Frankel, 1989) Our societies are the source that examines the pattern of cultural, political, and economic forces that drive individuals and firms.

This particular source has many levels, there is not one particular right, or wrong there are many shades of gray here. That is why we have courts with juries who listen to each individual story and makes the best decision based on the evidence provided. (Becker, 2001).

References Becker, L. C. (2001). In Encyclopedia of Ethics. Retrieved October 22, 2010, from Business Ethics: [http://www.credoreference.com/entry/routethics/business\\_ethics](http://www.credoreference.com/entry/routethics/business_ethics) Chambliss, J. (1996). In Philosophy of Education: An Encyclopedia. Retrieved October 18, 2010, from Ethics and Morality: [http://www.redoreference.com/entry/routpe/ethics\\_and\\_morality](http://www.redoreference.com/entry/routpe/ethics_and_morality) Frankel, M. S. (1989). Professional Codes: Why, How, and with What Impact? *Journal of Business Ethics* , 110-111. Gowdy, L. N. (2008). Definition of Ethics, Morals, Virtue and Quality. Retrieved October 22, 2010, from Angelfire. com: [www.angelfire.com/home/sesquiq/2007sesethics.html](http://www.angelfire.com/home/sesquiq/2007sesethics.html) Shaw, B. (1997). Sources of Virtue: The Market and the Community. *Business Ethics Quarterly*, 6. U. S. Legal Forms Inc. (2010). USLegal. Retrieved October 24, 2010, from USLegal. com: <http://definitions.uslegal.com/c/code-of-ethics/>