

Morality

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Why should we be moral? Why should we be moral? In a world that is increasingly becoming materialistic where success is defined in terms of economics and professional advancement, morality seems to be a baggage because it holds an individual back in achieving his or her goals through a set of rules. It seem difficult to compete in a rat world when one is burdened by the rules of morals compared to people who are not strapped by any set of rules and is therefore, more focused on achieving his or her goals. Thus, morals become problematic in a world that it becoming more and more goal oriented.

Morals became so obscured in this day and age that people does not only neglect to practice it but also not sure of what it means. Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy defined it as “ some codes of conduct put forward by a society” and these rules are central in formulating ethical theories (2011). We now often hear ethics in class and to put it in proper perspective it was defined by Kant’s deontology that posits that the best way to act morally to act from duty with the consideration of the highest good, that is, acting through the moral determination of the will. Kant’s acting through the moral determination of will meant that the motivation of one’s action must be pursue the good without condition which is intrinsically good by itself (Kant 30). He formulated his deontological ethics in a categorical imperative of doing good for the sake of good regardless of its consequence (Kant’s Ethics).

Considering the number of corporate scandals from Enron to WorldCom that helped slid this country in financial crisis, I am more inclined to believe that it is still better to be moral or ethical. Many people may disagree with my position as impractical that will make me finish last but I prefer to be moral

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and ethical.

I can however rebut that as what we can see in the experience, the gains that were garnered with the lack of morals or ethics are short lived and temporary. We all see it on national TV where corporate executives were arrested for fraud. Criminals also lack morals and while they can get away with their crimes, it is again temporary and sooner or later, they too will be arrested. On a personal level, I believe nobody would disagree that we all want to deal with the people we trust. And earning trust requires a great deal of integrity and honesty such as keeping one's words, not taking advantage of others etch all of which are the realms of morals and ethics. In the same vein, we also avoid dealing with people who cannot be trusted or we feel will cheat us. In business, we also would like to deal or buy from companies we trust and shy away with companies and products that have poor business practices. In sum, I prefer to be moral because the gains earned by being ethical or morally upright are more durable and long-term albeit it cannot be earned right away.

References

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