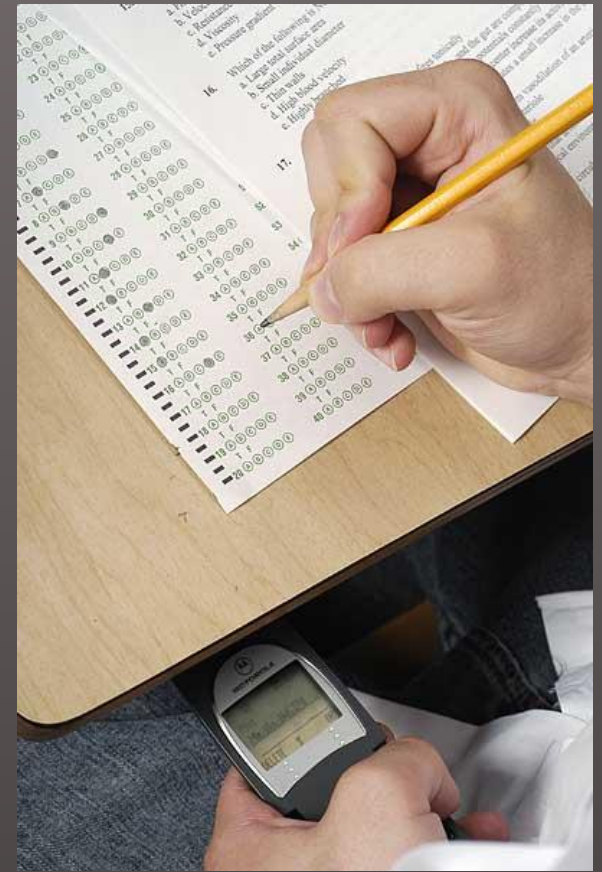


ETHICS IN OUR LAW

What's My Verdict?

- Has Jane made an ethical decision?
- What would you do?



- Ethics

- Deciding what is right or wrong in a reasoned, impartial manner

- Three elements in this decision

1. Decision about a right or wrong action

- To involve ethics, a decision must affect you or others in some significant way

2. Decision is reasoned

- Base decision on reason, not emotion

3. Decision is impartial

- Impartiality is the idea that the same ethical standards are applied to everyone

- Read the story on page 20 – 3rd paragraph

SHOULD YOU TELL?



● Business Ethics

- Ethical principles used in making business decisions
- All too often, ethics are not considered when business decisions are made

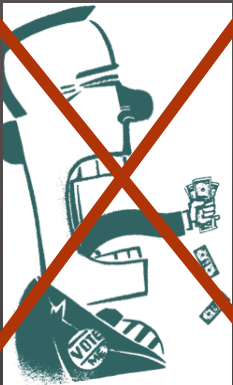
- Reason? Profit Maximization

- Example:

- move factories offshore and cut jobs to reduce costs and produce greater short term profits

- We need to move toward a more ethically motivated economy

- Profit maximization needs to be replaced by the more human ethical standard



Wrap up 2-1

- Individually complete “Think About Legal Concepts” on page 21 – record answers mentally
- Group discussion:
 - Cases #6 and #9



Forms of Ethical Reasoning

- Consequence Based Reasoning
 - Based only on the results of the action
 - An act that produces good consequences is good
 - An act that produces bad consequences is bad
- Rule Based Reasoning
 - Based on ethical rules – either they are right or wrong
 - The bible says lying is bad, so telling the truth is good

- Consequence-Based Reasoning

- Form of ethical reasoning that evaluates the results of an action.

- 3 steps involved with Consequence-Based Reasoning

1. *Look at alternatives*

1. What can I do?????

2. *Forecast consequences*

1. If I do this, what may happen?

3. *Evaluate consequences*

1. If I do this, how many people will be negativity or positively affected?

The Good – in order for the consequence both parties should be benefitting



“What’s My Verdict?” – page 22

- What were Tabs alternatives?
 - 1.
 - 2.
- What would be the consequences?
 - 1.
 - 2.
- Effects of the consequences?
 - 1.
 - 2.

Partner Project

- Read “An Issue of School Funding: A business Case Study”
 - Answer the questions
 - Apply the “Ethical Reasoning Based on Consequences”
- Share alternatives

- Universalizing

- Involves picturing in your mind's eye everyone in the world doing the same action
 - Everyone lying
 - Everyone taking each others land
- Read “In This Case” – page 23
 - Agree? Disagree?



Wrap up 2-

- Individually complete “Think About Legal Concepts” on page 24 – record answers mentally
- Group discussion:
 - Cases #7, #8, and #9



- “What’s Your Verdict?” – page 25
 - Should a law be enacted?
- What does it mean “Majority Rules”?
 - Discuss



- Majority Rules

- Elected representatives vote for laws acceptable to the majority of the people they represent
- “What’s My Verdict” – council used “majority rule” to determine ordinance – the majority wanted a peaceful neighborhood

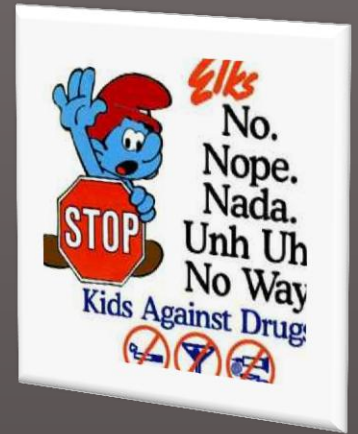
- Exceptions

- Sometimes laws may benefit the majority, however, they conflict with moral rights – violate constitution
 - Example: wealthy people in our society enslaved the poor
 - Slaves work for free benefiting the majority
 - Violation of the US Constitution – “equal protection of the law”
 - Read What’s my verdict? Page25



- Integrity

- The capacity to do what is right even in the face of temptation or pressure to do otherwise
 - Example: Socrates promised to obey the laws of Greece
 - He was charged with a crime and unjustly sentenced to death
 - He had the opportunity to escape – he declined



- Fidelity Bond

- An insurance policy that pays the employer money in the case of theft by employees
 - Example: large jewelry store
 - A lot of employees
 - A lot of money
 - Very large risk of theft among employees



- “What’s My Verdict” - page 28
- Civil Disobedience
 - An open, peaceful, violation of a law to protest its alleged injustice
 - Goal is to make the legal system more just
- Scofflaw
 - Persons who do not respect the law
 - Continually break the law assuming they won’t be caught
 - Avoids paying taxes
 - Avoids paying parking tickets

Wrap up chapter 2

- “Think Critically About Evidence” – page 29
 - # 10 & #11
- You Be The Judge – page 32
 - Cases #27 - #31