

Ethics in business encompasses so many areas that there are entire classes on business ethics at universities. Every business owner needs to understand how ethical issues pertain to running a.

Every business owner needs to understand how ethical issues pertain to running a business and dealing with employees and the broad public. It is always best to pre-empt problems with business ethics. Should ethics violations arise, business owners need to address the problem with quick actions. Discrimination in the Workplace Every business needs to be aware of anti-discrimination laws and regulations. In what are called "drive-by lawsuits," businesses are targeted for potential lawsuits by people who drive or walk by a business and note the violation. Violations might include not having doors with appropriate widths, the lack of handicap accessibility, or failure to provide handicap parking. Unsafe Working Conditions Employees have a right to safe working conditions based on regulations outlined in the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. While many OSHA citation violations deal with fall hazards, respiratory protection and chemical exposure, there have been lawsuits regarding the safety of inane items such as the signs that twirl at street corners for marketing. The violations stemmed from the sharp points of the signs and unprotected edges, which created lacerations. Businesses have restricted what twirlers can do with signs and provided safety features for signs. Many businesses moved away from twirlers entirely to avoid problems. Whistleblowing or Social Media Rants Business owners must respect and not penalize employees who are deemed whistleblowers to either regulatory authorities or on social media. Essentially, employees are encouraged and cannot be penalized for raising awareness of workplace violations. A Yelp employee wrote an opinion piece on a blog website that described the poor working conditions at Yelp. The employee was fired for her negative views on the company. However, states are increasingly passing off-duty conduct laws to protect employees for stating opinions on social media when they are not at work. Accounting Practices A business must maintain accurate bookkeeping practices. The oil giant, Enron was exposed in for "cooking the books" to misrepresent profits. The deception affected stockholder prices, and many public shareholders lost huge amounts of money because of the ethics violation. The company went bankrupt as a result, and the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of was established to protect public shareholders with stricter financial reporting laws. Even small privately held companies must keep accurate financial records to pay appropriate taxes and employee profit sharing or to attract business partners and investments. Nondisclosure and Corporate Espionage Employers are at risk of employees and former employees stealing information. This might be client data used by organizations in direct competition with the company. When intellectual property is stolen or private client information is sold on the black market, it is corporate espionage. Employers may require employees to sign nondisclosure agreements with stiff financial penalties to discourage these types of ethics violations. One of the biggest violations of corporate espionage exists with manufacturers who outsource technology products in China where the patents are stolen, re-engineered, and sent into the markets to compete with the companies that originally hired the factory.

Chapter 2 : Top Ethical Issues Facing the General Business Community | Your Business

Ethical Dilemma Examples By YourDictionary Ethical dilemmas, also known as a moral dilemmas, are situations in which there is a choice to be made between two options, neither of which resolves the situation in an ethically acceptable fashion.

Below is a list my co-editor, Alexei Marcoux, and I have put together of the Top 10 business ethics stories scandals , yes, but not just those of If you prefer the PDF version, click here: BEH Year in Review, From the cheating carmaker to the price-gouging pharma-bro, to the coffee company that wanted us to have a casual chat about race with the barista, the year has been a cornucopia of case studies in the ethics of commerce. This is our list of the top 10 items we reported on during In no particular order, here they are. Volkswagen was perhaps the biggest business ethics story of the year. The attention it got springs from two main sources: Shkreli has been arrested, for fraudulent activity unrelated to his price-gouging. Few tears are being shed, even among those who would defend his price-gouging as an unremarkable side-effect of an otherwise-beneficial free market. The bylaw the city passed was not a ban, per se, though it was sometimes referred to that way. Fans and foes have been vocal. For example, back in September the New York Post published an op-ed on why Airbnb helps make New York more affordable , contradicting those who claim that the accommodations service is driving up the price of lodgings. And ride-sharing service Uber continued to please users while angering traditional taxi companies and frustrating municipal lawmakers. Fast-food company Chipotle created a tempest in a taco by announcing that it would stop using genetically modified ingredients. Critics called the move anti-scientific, citing the lack of evidence to support anti-GMO sentiment. Why keep the kitchen clean when you can impress people with your holier-than-thou sourcing practices? Not surprisingly, wage inequality continued to be an important theme. Gender equity was also a big topic in Women fighting for equality got a boost from high-profile women, including Jennifer Lawrence lamenting gender-based pay disparities in Hollywood and tennis superstar Venus Williams trying to correct the gender-based pay differential in pro sports. In March, Starbucks announced an ambitious “some would say quixotic” plan to get Americans talking about race. The idea was to encourage customers to chat with baristas about what is without a doubt one of the most pressing social issues of the day, namely race. Skeptics scoffed, mocked, and rolled their eyes. The foam had barely settled on the latte before Starbucks declared that the RaceTogether campaign was over. There you have it, our year in review. Each of the stories above involved winners and losers. But then interesting times are always a mixed blessing.

Chapter 3 : CPA: Examples of an Ethical Dilemma in the Work Environment | Career Trend

"Ethical dilemmas, also known as a moral dilemmas, are situations in which there is a choice to be made between two options, neither of which resolves the situation in an ethically acceptable fashion.

Working with people creates interesting situations. It must be addressed. If you let it get swept under the rug you are doing a disservice and setting yourself up for future problems. The statement is broad, so I am not sure if you are the one that has to handle it or are you just aware of a situation? At any rate tackle it swiftly, objectively and consider the people involved and any regulatory concerns or lawsuit concerns later on. This will only give you benefits in the future. I faced the dilemma and I did it the right way. Although the situation was not so serious. A colleague of mine faced a serious one, she was vertical and things turned out good for her because the higher layers bosses of her boss are ethical as well. I think ethics are always the way to go. Easy to say no? There are two moments in that situation of yours where more alternatives could have been considered: Often we choose to think that only one goal can be achieved and we have to choose because one excludes the other. Maybe if you think back to that day No other sharp remarks from your side since you anyway expected to be fired after? However, in my opinion, to give to your people the true facts, no bias, would mean being ethical also towards them. It would help them understand their environment. If not, think about a former subordinate of yours, being offered your former position. If he would know what happened to you, he would not accept this position and find himself dismissed after. I would not agree that informing them would generate this or that effect. They must be grown-ups. I still believe that there are times when you should not tell your subordinates what is happening. I understand your point, but if someone wants to accept the position I left, they can certainly come to me directly and ask me why i left. I may not be able to tell them the exact reason, but I could offer advice. In my opinion, telling many people the reasons I left would cause chaos, rebellion, and loss of respect between the workers and management. On the other hand, perhaps a strategy to use during ethical dilemmas is based upon biblical teaching. The gist is that when someone wrongs you, you go to that person to try and work things out. It seems like some of the posters here did exactly that and it worked. My boss, who also worked for the company, was getting paid under the table by a competitor to sabotage our contract so they could get it. I tried to sound the alarm by contacting his supervisor. The water was already poisoned by my boss, that I was a troublemaker and should not be trusted. So, his supervisor refused to believe my report. A month later, my boss ordered me to install pirated software onto the server. I refused, and when he immediately told him to do it again, I told him to go f himself because it was illegal. The next day, I went to his supervisor to report him. Again, he refused to believe me, and said that my boss caught me trying to install the software and that I was now on probation. My annual review was not good, and they let me go. A month later, my former boss was hired by the federal agency, and he immediately cancelled the contract with my former company, and awarded the contract to the company he was on the take to. Over people lost their jobs because of that incident. It hurt, because it took me a long time to find a new job. But, I was slightly comforted knowing that I did the right thing, and that the boss who refused to believe me lost his job. Now the guy who was underhanded. I can only rest in the knowledge that God promises to curse them that curse me. That may not comfort many people. But, it does me. Plus, after a long time in DC, I moved away and this event was what helped me make the decision. I moved to better weather, and the people are a lot nicer. Plus, I have a job I love that may not pay as well, but provides a lot more satisfaction.

Chapter 4 : 12 Business Ethics Examples

Before we step into details of ethical dilemmas in business, let's start with the definition. In simple terms, business ethics are a standard for how businesses should be conducted and are also called professional ethics.

Ethical dilemmas, also known as moral dilemmas, are situations in which there is a choice to be made between two options, neither of which resolves the situation in an ethically acceptable fashion. In such cases, societal and personal ethical guidelines can provide no satisfactory outcome for the chooser. Ethical dilemmas assume that the chooser will abide by societal norms, such as codes of law or religious teachings, in order to make the choice ethically impossible. Roger has recently met and started dating a wonderful lady named Phyllis. He is convinced this is a long term relationship. Unknown to Roger, Michael observed them at a restaurant several days ago and realized Phyllis is the wife of his other friend Daniel. Michael is deciding whether to tell Roger that Phyllis is married when he receives a call from Daniel. Daniel suspects his wife is having an affair and since they and Michael share many friends and contacts, he asks if Michael has heard anything regarding an affair. To whom does Michael owe greater friendship to in this situation? No matter who he tells, he is going to end up hurting one, if not both friends. Does he remain silent and hope his knowledge is never discovered? Societal Dilemmas An article on ListVerse compiled a list of Top 10 moral dilemmas and asked readers to consider what they would do in those situations. Here is an example of one of the Top 10 ethical dilemmas they proposed: A pregnant woman leading a group of people out of a cave on a coast is stuck in the mouth of that cave. In a short time high tide will be upon them, and unless she is unstuck, they will all be drowned except the woman, whose head is out of the cave. Fortunately, or unfortunately, someone has with him a stick of dynamite. There seems no way to get the pregnant woman loose without using the dynamite which will inevitably kill her; but if they do not use it everyone will drown. What should they do? The Institute for Global Ethics also proposed the following ethical dilemma to promote a global understanding of ethics and to promote ethical decision making: The mood at Baileyville High School is tense with anticipation. For the first time in many, many years, the varsity basketball team has made it to the state semifinals. The community is excited too, and everyone is making plans to attend the big event next Saturday night. Jeff, the varsity coach, has been waiting for years to field such a team. Only one more week to practice, he tells his team, and not a rule can be broken. Everyone must be at practice each night at the regularly scheduled time: They have deliberately disobeyed his orders. The rule says they should be suspended for one full week. If he follows the rule, Brad and Mike will not play in the semifinals. But the whole team is depending on them. What should he do? These are named after Lawrence Kohlberg, who studied moral development and who proposed a theory that moral thinking goes in stages. Some examples of Kohlberg dilemmas presented to students at Haverford include the following: Joe is a fourteen-year-old boy who wanted to go to camp very much. His father promised him he could go if he saved up the money for it himself. So Joe worked hard at his paper route and saved up the forty dollars it cost to go to camp, and a little more besides. But just before camp was going to start, his father changed his mind. So he told Joe to give him the money he had saved from the paper route. In Europe, a woman was near death from a special kind of cancer. There was one drug that the doctors thought might save her. It was a form of radium that a druggist in the same town had recently discovered. The drug was expensive to make, but the druggist was charging ten times what the drug cost him to make. He told the druggist that his wife was dying, and asked him to sell it cheaper or let him pay later. Judy was a twelve-year-old girl. Her mother promised her that she could go to a special rock concert coming to their town if she saved up from baby-sitting and lunch money to buy a ticket to the concert. She managed to save up the fifteen dollars the ticket cost plus another five dollars. But then her mother changed her mind and told Judy that she had to spend the money on new clothes for school. Judy was disappointed and decided to go to the concert anyway. She bought a ticket and told her mother that she had only been able to save five dollars. That Saturday she went to the performance and told her mother that she was spending the day with a friend. A week passed without her mother finding out. Judy then told her older sister, Louise, that she had gone to the performance and had lied to her mother about it. Louise wonders whether to tell their

mother what Judy did. Information Access The advent of email in the business world surely has created new ground for moral dilemmas involving information access and privacy. Tony, a data analyst for a major casino, is working after normal business hours to finish an important project. He realizes that he is missing data that had been sent to his coworker Robert. Upon doing so, Tony sees an open email regarding gambling bets Robert placed over the last several days with a local sports book. All employees of the casino are forbidden to engage in gambling activities to avoid any hint of conflict of interest. If he warns Robert to stop his betting, he would also have to reveal the source of his information. What does Tony do in this situation? Professional Life Versus Family Life Another example of an ethical dilemma involves professional ethics versus the best care of your child: Alan works in the claims department of a major hospital. Paperwork on a recent admission shows that a traumatic mugging caused the patient to require an adjustment in the medication she is prescribed to control anxiety and mood swings. Can Alan reconcile these issues in an ethical manner? Branches of Ethics You can study ethics from both a religious and a philosophical point of view. There are five branches of ethics: Normative Ethics - The largest branch, it deals with how individuals can figure out the correct moral action that they should take. Philosophers such as Socrates and John Stuart Mill are included in this branch of ethics. Meta-Ethics - This branch seeks to understand the nature of ethical properties and judgments such as if truth values can be found and the theory behind moral principals. Applied Ethics - This is the study of applying theories from philosophers regarding ethics in everyday life. For example, this area of ethics asks questions such as "Is it right to have an abortion? Descriptive Ethics - This branch is more scientific in its approach and focuses on how human beings actually operate in the real world, rather than attempt to theorize about how they should operate. Knowing how to best resolve difficult moral and ethical dilemmas is never easy especially when any choice violates the societal and ethical standards by which we have been taught to govern our lives. YourDictionary definition and usage example.

Chapter 5 : Ethical and Moral Issues in Business Essay Example | Graduateway

According to a www.nxgvision.com, the top ethical issues facing the general business community today include: pay equality, deceptive accounting practices, conflicts of interest and sexual harassment, among others.

Career News July 3, Ethical dilemmas are something that goes hand-in-hand with being a nurse or even a doctor. The patient unit is far more complex than simply caring for patients. An ethical dilemma is generally a problem that has no right answer, wrong answer or sometimes there is not even resolution. Suicide The argument rages even today about whether or not people have the right to die when they choose to die. Most of the time, these patients are terminal and realize that their quality of life is declining faster than the progression of their disease. Do patients who are terminal and suffering have the right to die through assisted suicide? Nursing is about promoting quality care and saving lives through resources and our own caring capacity for other people. How should nurses approach the topic of assisted suicide? The Right to say No In the United States, we have always been granted the freedom of choice, but what happens when our choices impact our health or even endanger our own life. Anorexia is a common eating disorder where patients consume so little resources that the body begins to consume itself. How should nurses deal with an anorexic patient that will not eat? What if the patient is not anorexic, but just terminal and decides that they no long want to live? Do we have the right as health practitioners to override the right of free choice? Lying to Patients It is not uncommon for a family member to demand that their loved one not be told they have a terminal illness. It is equally tempting for healthcare professionals to embellish reality by telling a patient that they are worse off than they truly are. How do we deal with alcoholism and substance abuse when the patient is a chronic addict? We know that eventually their addiction will kill them in one form or another, but should we lead them to believe that they are dying now? Utilization of Resources Resources are defined as tools used to provide patient care. Those tools include bed space, government reimbursements, funding, etc. How should nurses approach ethical dilemma when patients are utilizing resources that might be better used on another patient or population of patients. The example for this dilemma would be a patient that has no brain function, is on life support and has been for several years. Is there an argument that would allow the resources being used on this patient to end? How would the nurse deal with the family of this patient? Empirical Knowledge and Personal Belief This is not such an uncommon encounter any more in nursing. The world is changing, and with that change, we see new doctrine, philosophies, religions that are quite different from our own beliefs. One common issues results in religious beliefs and blood transfusions. How should a nurse handle a patient who will die without a blood transfusion, but refuses the transfusion based on religious belief? If the patient is of sound mind, do they not have the right to refuse service? Ethical dilemmas are faced every day, and those that are listed here are only a partial list of what nurses face while providing patient care. There is no easy answer to any of these dilemmas and ethics course are full of helpful advice, but no real answers. It is difficult to accept that sometimes, but our jobs are to provide the best information that we can so that the patient or family can make an informed decision about how to proceed with care. We may not like the result, but that is not our job. Our job as nurses is to provide the best care possible and sometimes that is simply allowing a patient the dignity to die. Thank you for sharing your preferences. You can find other options through our sponsored listings below!

Chapter 6 : Ethics in today's business world

The owner has an ethical bent that it is okay; the employees view it as an ethical dilemma. I have seen what I would call ethical dilemmas for me because of my worldview. What I have to choose to do is view it through the lens of legalities.

List of Ethical Issues in Business by Fraser Sherman - Updated November 08, Even in the 21st century, businesses are run by people, not computers. Being people, they face ethical challenges and sometimes flunk them. The ethical issues in business take different shapes than in schools or the home, even though they stem from the same impulses. Ethical Challenges and Cash Most business owners see themselves as honest people. When money gets tight, however, it can trigger lots of ethical problems in business. Do you cheat on environmental or safety compliance to keep the lights on? Do you pay your workers late or hold off paying vendors? Do you let some bills go unpaid because your cash flow is low? Harassment and Discrimination Sexism and bigotry can crop up anywhere. Harassment not only makes employees miserable, it can affect their pay and their career. Movie mogul Harvey Weinstein, for example, has been accused of harassing and assaulting dozens of women. Women who resisted say Weinstein worked to blacklist them and ruin their careers. If harassment and discrimination happen, that produces added ethical challenges: Companies such as Fox News and MGM have "solved" harassment problems by covering them up or discrediting the victim. It becomes an ethical issue if the social connection becomes more important than actual ability. Nepotism— hiring a relative — and favoritism are despised because they tell other workers that job performance is less important than blood, or being buddies with upper management. Other hacks are preventable and only happen because of corporate negligence. For example, some security experts told Wired magazine in that Equifax could probably have prevented its massive data breach with better security. If companies are negligent about security it becomes an ethical issue. Equifax waited two months after learning of the breach. Keeping Employees Safe There are millions of workplace accidents and illnesses reported each year. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there were 2. Some of those accidents were due to negligence with employers ignoring the legal requirements for keeping the workplace safe. Common problems often include not using guards on sharp cutting equipment, and not taking steps to prevent falls or electrical accidents.

Chapter 7 : Ethical Dilemma In The Workplace Examples & Solutions

In the complex global business environment of the 21st century, companies of every size face a multitude of ethical issues. Businesses have the responsibility to develop codes of conduct and.

April 4, by Travis Bennett In their simplest form, ethics are the moral standards you rely on when you make a decision. For responsible decision making in a business environment, a good set of ethics is key. Building on this when you maintain a high set of ethics as you conduct your business it provides benefits to everyone. Ethics are not only a guide to making decisions, but also the criteria the public judge you on. In business, this is critical, because how people see you and your company is the basis of building trust. Personally, your ethics form as you are influenced by the people and the environment around you. There are ethical views that apply to people all around the world, while others are more personal, and apply only to you. In a business, ethics has very positive benefits, and you can learn more about them in this course. The reasons for having high ethical standards include: Regardless of whether you believe good business ethics contribute to profits or not, poor ethics will have a major impact on your bottom line. Without standards you have misinformed, misguided and bad decisions being made, which can cause financial loss or injury to other people, or the business. Many legal cases are raised because of people seeking compensation for their losses as a result of business people making unethical decisions. You need to get every member of your organization committed to a set of high ethical standards. As a manager or the business owner, you need to clearly define and communicate to your employees the consequences of being unethical, and the set of standards you want them to adhere to. You can study what it takes to create an ethical organization in this course. Huge organizations like Enron have been destroyed by unethical decisions, and others seriously damaged like Fannie Mae. Without a set of ethical standards combining ambition and the intelligence of senior executives is a recipe for disaster. Competitiveness, innovation and ambition are critical for a business to succeed, but they need to be kept in check with a strong moral compass, and business done in the right way. Here are 12 principles that form the basis of business ethics, and are what you need to hold yourself accountable to: **Honesty** You need to be honest in all of your actions, and every communication you make. People appreciate the fact they can take you at your word, as customers only ever do business with those they trust. Being an ethical executive means you do not deceive others by misrepresenting the facts, overstating and exaggerating or only giving partial truths. **Integrity** Being ethical in business means maintaining a high level of personal integrity. This is how you earn the trust of others, whether they are your customers, team or your superiors. In this definition integrity means having a consistent character that is demonstrated by an alignment of your thoughts, words and action. Sometimes it requires you to have moral courage to do the right thing, and it takes inner strength to live up to mistakes and admit when a fault has been made. Despite a great pressure to do otherwise, ethical business managers live by a moral code they believe in, principles to maintain and they fight for their beliefs “without sacrificing their honor for the sake of just getting a job done. **Keeping Your Promises** Your word is one of the most important tools in your arsenal as a business manager. Keep every promise that you make, and always fulfill a commitment. The trust you build as an ethical executive means people like doing business with you, as you take every reasonable effort to fulfill not only the letter, but the spirit of the promises and commitments you have made. You can learn more about building trust in a business in this course. Just do what you said you were going to do. **Loyalty** You need to be loyal to both your company, your team and yourself, while operating within a strong moral compass. If you demonstrate your loyalty it builds trust, and shows that you place a high value on advancing the interests of both the company and your colleagues. You should not ever place loyalty above your other principles, or use it as an excuse for unethical behavior. **Demonstrate your loyalty** but always make an independent judgment, and never use information that you have gained in confidence for your own personal advancement. Steer clear of conflicts of interest, and if you ever decide to leave your company do it on the best of terms. Give reasonable notice, respect any information that was gained in your former employer, and never engage in activities that take advantage of a previous position that was held. **Fair** In all of your actions, you must strive to be fair and just. An ethical executive is committed

to fairness in all that they do, and do not seek to exercise their power for an unfair advantage or use indecent methods to gain a competitive edge. Being an ethical executive means that you are committed to being fair, employ justice in your decisions and treat all people equally, with tolerance and acceptance of diversity. Being fair also means being open minded, admitting when they have made a mistake, and adjusting their beliefs and positions when it is appropriate. Caring This involves having a genuine concern for others, as well as a sense of compassion. An ethical business manager is caring, benevolent and kind to both customers and staff, and seeks to reach their goals while causing the least amount of harm and the greatest amount of good. Being caring means understanding that there will be an impact on every stakeholder following a decision, and they always consider the financial, emotional and long term business consequences of an action. Respect Being ethical means treating everyone with respect, demonstrating this by being courteous and having an equal treatment of people regardless of who they are. Respect is given because everyone deserves dignity, privacy and rights, and they adhere to the rule that you must strive to treat others the way you would like to be treated. Obeying the law An ethical executive always obeys the law, and never breaks the rules, regulations or laws surrounding their business activities. Excellence Being ethical in business is also about pursuing excellence in everything that you do. Delivering the highest quality of service or products makes business sense, especially if there is a constant endeavor to always improve. Being a Leader You need to demonstrate the principles and ethics you want your team to live by, and take an active role as a leader to be a positive role model. The best way you can enforce an ethical mentality is to lead by example, and creating an environment within your business that values decisions made on principles and standards of ethics. You can learn more about the ways you can approach being a leader in this recent post. Morale Ethical business managers enhance the good reputation of a company, which at the same time boosts the morale if its employees. The company reputation is very important, as well as the pride and morale of their employees. As an ethical business manager you need to avoid taking actions that undermine this respect, and they take action to correct any inappropriate behavior of others. Accountable Being ethical means holding yourself accountable, and acknowledging and accepting personal accountability for their decisions, and any consequences. Not just personally, but an ethical manager will stand up and take accountability in front of their colleagues, their company, and the community. This is the foundation that takes your company to the success that it deserves to reach!

The best way you can enforce an ethical mentality is to lead by example, and creating an environment within your business that values decisions made on principles and standards of ethics. You can learn more about the ways you can approach being a leader in this recent post.

Examples of Ethical Dilemmas in Businesses by Riccardo Giovanniello - Updated November 02, Questions arising from ethical dilemmas and the proper course of action trouble everyone, from police officers to judges, firefighters and business owners. In business, ethics may prove a troublesome barrier. The earning of money brings power and responsibilities that are not always clear-cut and definitive. However, sometimes those who are in power do not realize the ethical implications of their decisions and actions. Ethical Issues from the Nature of Business The goal of every business owner is to dominate their market and stave off competition from peers. But when a monopoly is achieved, is it right to exploit consumers? Is it always ethical to follow the demand of the market if yours is the only firm offering the required product? A CEO of a strong and controlling company, such as Microsoft, might have to decide what the fairest price of their product would be, despite the nature of their dominating control in the market. The unequal global distribution of wealth also raises ethical dilemmas in business. Is it acceptable to use child labor? Executives sometimes have to decide between low product costs and high standards for their workers. Perhaps a business owner will have to decide what percentage of her revenue should return to the community to repay it for supporting the business. Is it ethical to test potentially dangerous products on animals? What if the product could potentially save thousands of human lives? On these questions there are many answers, but every business is required to choose its own path within the guidelines of the law. Some businesses refuse to test their products on animals and make a point of stating so directly on their label, while other businesses believe that the benefit received from animal testing outweighs any ethical concerns to the contrary. Likewise, many fashion chains, such as American Apparel and the Gap, have instituted a strict no-fur policy. Having an unclear or misleading price might help move a product, but is it ethical? At what point should the consumer be informed of her total purchase obligation? Deceptive advertising is another business dilemma: The most prominent example is in online marketing, where the regulations for advertising are not as strict as on billboards or television. Intracompany Ethics A business must consider the its own internal ethics. Should a company pay dividends to its investors or reinvest in the business? Is it ethical to retain profits instead of sharing them with investors? What should the salary of the CEO be? Should the business allow employees to unionize? Some companies, such as Walmart, have a strict no-union policy and may choose to resort to firing employees rather than allowing workers to form a union.

Chapter 9 : List of Ethical Issues in Business | Bizfluent

It has been a busy year in business ethics and corporate social responsibility. From the cheating carmaker to the price-gouging pharma-bro, to the coffee company that wanted us to have a casual chat about race with the barista, the year has been a cornucopia of case studies in the ethics of commerce.

In ethical and moral issues, people begin to question the ethics and morals of the person or people in the middle of the questioning. This paper will define the differences between ethical and moral issues, the differences between personal and business ethics, and will provide examples of common ethical problems in business. Differences in Ethical and Moral Issues. Society dictates the ethics and what is and is not accepted in society. Ethics are what most people would commonly consider to be what is right and what is wrong. Ethics may change as society changes and what once may have been acceptable may no longer be acceptable and vice versa. Some people find themselves answering questions on what their friends or family would think if they found out about the decision they made; this helps some people make the right or moral decision. Differences in Personal and Business Ethics Personal ethics are the ethics that apply to a particular person and may vary between people. Personal ethics are established based on religion, culture, family, and beliefs. Personal ethics begin to develop for a person from a very early age, when the person begins to think and act for themselves. A person may be asked to conduct business in a way that goes against their personal ethics. If businesses operate using ethics that are wrong or could be called into question the business could lose money from clients or investors or could even be shut down. Examples of Ethical Problems in Business There are several examples of each of the aforementioned ethical and moral issues people face every day. This section will provide some of those examples as they pertain to ethical problems in business. An ethical situation a business may face is discrimination. Employees, including potential employees, are protected from an employer or potential employer discriminating against them based on age, disability, equal pay, genetic information, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, retaliation, sex, and sexual harassment USA. It is important that a business upholds the standards of the U. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission so the businesses decision to hire or not to hire a person is not called into question. Personal ethics vary between each person in a business and should be made known. A business within reason should not ask a person to go against their personal ethics. Business ethics could be called into question if there are accounts reported of favoritism or business being conducted for personal gain. Favoritism includes allowing certain employees to take extra breaks or longer lunches than other employees. The above examples are not illegal, but could be considered unethical business behavior. Conclusion There is a fine line when it comes down to business ethics. Ethics and morals carry an important role on how business is conducted. It is essential for an employer to operate ethically for the business to be successful. Any business that is called into question for unethical behavior may not be able to recover from the negativity the behavior and questioning brings.