

## Ethics Essay

A code of ethics ensures that individuals act with integrity, responsibility, and fairness towards others. It also serves as a guideline for making legally compliant and morally sound decisions. It encourages individuals and organizations to consider the broader implications of their actions, promoting a culture of honesty, trust, and respect among colleagues, clients, and the broader community.

When confronted with an ethical dilemma, I gather all the relevant information to understand the situation completely. I will then carefully consider the potential impacts of my decision, considering any long-term consequences. I consider the 5P's of ethics and reflect on my past experiences. Ultimately, I try to make a decision that aligns with ethical principles.

In class, we discussed the ethical implications of technological advancements and their repercussions on privacy and safety. One of the cases we discussed was the Ford Pinto which exemplified the importance of corporate responsibility and the significance of valuing human life over profit. We also discussed using personal devices in legal investigations in the Amazon Echo case and the ethical management of big data, highlighting the challenges of balancing technological benefits with individual rights and privacy protection. These topics show why it's crucial to have strong principles when dealing with ethical dilemmas. It's critical to be honest, responsible, and have integrity when navigating today's complex moral issues.

My classmates and I shared a common understanding of the complexities of regulating ethics, such as using personal devices in legal cases like the Amazon Echo scenario. We recognized the difficulty in drawing a clear line between privacy rights and the potential benefits of technology, such as aiding in criminal investigations. Despite these challenges, we agreed on the ethical considerations to be prioritized and reached a consensus on what we thought to be the most ethical courses of action, acknowledging the delicate balance between technological advancement and moral responsibility.

The most relevant virtues related to the Ford Pinto case study are integrity, responsibility, and fidelity. Engineers must uphold their moral principles, even when pressured to compromise for profit or efficiency, which is why integrity is crucial. The engineers should've upheld their responsibility to recognize their obligation to ensure public safety. Furthermore, fidelity emphasizes the importance of loyalty to ethical principles over corporate interests in the context of being faithful to ethical standards and the welfare of all stakeholders. While honesty, charity, and self-discipline are

fundamental virtues, they do not address the primary concern of prioritizing safety over profit found in the Ford Pinto case.

An additional virtue that could be relevant to this case study but is not included in the "Virtue of Ethics" might be empathy. Empathy includes understanding and sharing the feelings of others, which is crucial with safety issues like the placement and durability of a gas tank. It underscores the importance of considering the human impact of engineering decisions, which complements the virtues of charity and responsibility. Empathy could encourage a deeper understanding of the potential consequences of neglecting safety in favor of other considerations, thus promoting more ethically sound decision-making.

In conclusion, a code of ethics is a cornerstone for making morally sound decisions amidst technological and corporate challenges. The discussions, ranging from corporate misconduct to privacy concerns in technology, highlight the ethics' critical roles in navigating complex scenarios and guiding actions, ensuring that progress and technological advancements are aligned with the greater good of society.