

Assignment-II (Week-2)

Q.1 Differentiate between law and ethics.

Ans. Concept of Law

The law is described as the set of rules and regulation, created by the government to govern the whole society. The law is universally accepted, recognized and enforced. It is made after considering ethical principles and moral values. Every person in the country is bound to follow the law. It clearly defines what a person must or must not do.

Concept of Ethics

By ethics, we mean that branch of moral philosophy that guides people about what is good or bad. It is a collection of fundamental concepts and principles of an ideal human character. The principles help us in making decisions regarding, what is right or wrong. It informs us about how to act in a particular situation and make a judgment to make better choices for ourselves.

Being ethical is not the same as following the law. While ethical people always try to be law-abiding, there may be instances where your sense of ethics tells you it is best not to follow the law. These situations are rare and should be based on sound ethical reasons. Here's one example:

An ethical society is one that values a commitment to do the right thing regardless of personal costs. It's not an easy standard to live by but one worth pursuing.

BASIS OF DIFFERENCE	LAW	ETHICS
Meaning	The law refers to a systematic body of rules that governs the whole society and the actions of its individual members.	Ethics is a branch of moral philosophy that guides people about the basic human conduct.
Deals with	Set of rules and regulations	Set of guidelines
Governed By	Government	Individual, and Professional norms
Expression	Expressed and published in writing.	They are abstract.
Violation	Violation of law is not permissible which may result in punishment like imprisonment or fine or both.	There is no punishment for violation of ethics.
Objective	Law is created with intent to maintain social order and peace in the society and provide protection to all the citizens.	Ethics are made to help people to decide what is right or wrong and how to act.
Binding	Law has a legal binding.	Ethics do not have legal binding

Q.2 Explain the concept of ethics and religion. Discuss some religious ethics in daily life.

Ans. Often, religion and ethics are treated as the same thing, with various religions making claims about their belief systems being the best way for people to live. In general, all religious traditions believe that their faith represents a path to enlightenment and salvation.

Ethics are universal decision-making tools that may be used by a person of any religious persuasion, including atheists. While religion makes claims about cosmology, social behavior, and the proper treatment of others, etc. Ethics are based on logic and reason rather than tradition.

The reason that we need ethics is that what is good and bad in life are often complicated by our personal circumstances, culture, finances, ethnicity, gender, age, time, experience, personal beliefs, and other variables. Often the path that looks most desirable will have negative consequences, while the path that looks the most perilous for an individual or organization will often result in doing the most good for others. Doing what is "right" is a lot harder than doing what is expedient or convenient.

All religion is a means of providing an ethical compass for the common man. A religious person on the other hand, follows his or her code of conduct because he believes that it is proper behavior and reaction to the varying challenges and circumstances which arise during the course of life. Religious ethics are the moral principles that guide religions and that set the standard for what is and isn't acceptable behavior.

Some religious ethics in daily life:

Compassion

The word *compassion* means, "To suffer with". All religions believe in showing compassion to others. Although humans' capacity for compassion and kindness isn't limitless, as God's is, believers strive to nurture it, even when doing so is hard, because it brings them closer to God. Having compassion means that you can feel others' pain. This is considered as religious ethics

Humility It is a sign of respect for God and awareness that all blessings flow from God to whom all thanks are due.

Hope What happens happen for a reason, and the faithful will be rewarded in paradise and the irreligious punished in hell. Religious hopefulness is not the same thing as optimism. Optimism is the attitude that things are great. Religious hopefulness is actually built upon the idea that things aren't so great, but that we don't see the whole picture. The incompleteness of human knowing is met by the hope that the world holds more promise than we can see from our limited perspective.

Q.3 How one can understand ethics in science and technology? What are the ethical aspects regarding science and technology?

Ans. The modern technologies and systems are all human inventions in response to the needs visualized under the influence of the prevailing worldview. Accordingly, they have been designed and optimized to the objective functions best suited to this world view. In order to facilitate the development of holistic technologies and systems, it will be necessary to visualize alternative objective functions and to formulate appropriate criteria for evaluation compatible with comprehensive human goal. Generally speaking, there are three broad criteria to guide the development of such technologies and systems, viz.

- a. Catering to appropriate needs and lifestyles,
- b. People-friendly, and
- c. Eco-friendly.

Ethical Aspects Regarding Science and Technology

- Research involving human subjects should do no intentional harm, while maximizing possible benefits and minimizing possible harms, both to the individuals involved and to society at large.
- Attention needs to be paid to the equitable distribution within human society of benefits and burdens of research involving human subjects. In particular, those participants chosen for such research should not be inequitably selected from group unlikely to benefit from the work.

UNESCO continues to build and reinforce linkages among ethicists, scientists, policy-makers, judges, journalists, and civil society to assist Member States in enacting sound and reasoned policies on ethical issues in science and technology in the form of following such measures:

- Addressing the emerging ethical challenges by providing an intellectual forum for multidisciplinary, pluralistic and multicultural reflection on ethics of science and technology.
- Developing the Global Ethics Observatory
- Providing Member States with the necessary tools and technical support for the enhancement of their national ethics infrastructure

Q.4 What is business ethics? Explain the importance of ethics at the workplace.

Ans. Business ethics (also corporate ethics) is a form of applied ethics or professional ethics that examines ethical principles and moral or ethical problems that arise in a business environment, including fields like Medical ethics. It applies to all aspects of business conduct and is relevant to the conduct of individuals and entire organizations.

Business ethics has both normative and descriptive dimensions. As a corporate practice and a career specialization, the field is primarily normative. Academics attempting to understand business behavior employ descriptive methods. The range and quantity of business ethical issues reflects the interaction of profit-maximizing behavior with non-economic concerns. Interest in business ethics accelerated dramatically during the 1980s and 1990s, both within major corporations and within academia. For example, today most major corporations promote their commitment to non-economic values under headings such as ethics codes and social responsibility charters. Adam Smith said, "People of the same trade seldom meet together, even for merriment and diversion, but the conversation ends in a conspiracy against the public, or in some contrivance to raise prices." Governments use laws and regulations to point business behavior in what they perceive to be beneficial directions. Ethics implicitly regulates areas and details of behavior that lie beyond governmental control. The emergence of large corporations with limited relationships and sensitivity to the communities in which they operate accelerated the development of formal ethics regimes. According to Andrew Crane, "Business ethics is the study of business situations, activities, and decisions where issues of right and wrong are addressed."

Nature and importance of Ethics at workplace

- **Code of conduct:** Ethics is a code of conduct. It tells what to do and what not to do for the welfare of the society. All Employees must follow this code of conduct at workplace.
- **Based on moral and social values:** Ethics is based on moral and social values. It contains moral and social principles (rules) for doing business and work. This includes self-control, consumer protection and welfare, service to society, fair treatment to social groups, not to exploit others, etc.
- **Gives protection to social groups:** Ethics give protection to different social groups such as consumers, employees, small businessmen, government, shareholders, creditors, etc.
- **Provides basic framework:** Ethics provide a basic framework for doing tasks at workplace.
- **Voluntary:** Ethics must be voluntary. The Employee must accept business ethics on their own. It must be like self-disciplined.
- **Requires education and guidance:** Workmen must be given proper education and guidance before introducing work ethics. The employee must be motivated to use business ethics. They must be informed about the advantages of using work ethics
- **Relative Term:** It changes from one country to another. What is considered as good in one country may be taboo in another country.