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CHEATING

**THE ORIGIN, NATURE, IMPORTANCE
AND IMPROVEMENT
OF BUSINESS AND OTHER ETHICS**

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14. MORE QUESTIONS

If one were to collect key words and phrases important to the study of ethics, what should be added to this list? Love, judgment, kindness, conviction, transparency, trust, communities, family, unselfish, gentle, strength, culture, time, space...

Can the ethical principles by which a society operates be changed? How?

We have noted that leaders, people in power, can define ethics for those under their influence. How much influence do these leaders have? Do they choose to ignore ethical principles with which they have been imbued and set a different standard by the example of their own behavior which may be in contradiction with the ethics they might claim to follow?

How much of our problem is not bad ethics so much as that we ignore and do not follow the ethics we purport to subscribe to?

What are the consequences of the "us versus them" syndrome? Does conduct or ethical norms depend upon who you are dealing with? How can this problem be avoided in a tightly knit one-world situation?

How can relationships be improved between the ethical norms involved in relationships between individuals, between corporations and individuals, and between corporations and their employees?

What is being done in the family, schools including law and business schools to make students aware of ethical issues and what more can be done? Are these efforts effective?

What is the difference between unethical behavior and illegal behavior?

Is it ethical to violate a law when it is stupid, bad or outdated or government action abusive? Is civil

disobedience ethical? Is it reasonable to violate laws because sanctions are seldom or almost never enforced by law?

What should a "corporate code of ethics", "professional code of ethics", or even "personal code of ethics" be?

Do wealthy persons and companies tend to be more ethical than the poor ones?

In this book, it is suggested that ethics are variable depending on who you are dealing with. Is this really true or is one lowering ethical standards so it is not ethics that vary but how, when and under what circumstances normal human beings apply them?

Does the application of ethical rules by normal human beings vary depending on the risks and rewards that unethical conduct engenders?

What would the philosophers, including Wittgenstein, add to in this book? Would they contradict statements in this book?

Does participating in the free enterprise system business or in politics actively corrupt people or do people corrupt business and politics? Or both?²³⁷

²³⁷ Some of these additional questions were posed by Professor *emeritus* Robert Silsbee of Cornell University. These questions are included to stimulate further thought and research and to incite readers to formulate other important questions that occur to them after reading this book.