1. My Ethical Philosophy

My ethical philosophy follows the famed quote “Do unto others as you wish to be done to yourself”. I’ve tried to live by this, for the most part, my entire life. We’ve all heard it since we were little kids in grade school, “Treat others how you’d treat yourself”. Even though it seems as if it will get easier to abide by this rule with age and maturation, it’s actually the opposite. As young kids, we tease and make fun of others, not noticing the seriousness behind it. Interestingly enough as we grow older, it seems as if the majority of people still act the same way. Even though it is ethically wrong to intentionally make fun of or hurt others, it doesn’t seem to affect us that much. Now, it simply seems that we do it unknowingly, as if we’ve grown up and aged with this horrible ethical disease.

Anyone can change if they want to badly enough. The question is, do we really want to? Maybe there is some sort of hidden satisfaction we receive from doing such things. In either case, from any ethical standpoint, treating others with the same kindness you expect is just the right thing to do. Even though the world will never be 100% peaceful, and all people won’t be ideally ethical toward others, one person changing their ways each day can make a significant difference.

2. Case 8.1 – Cynthia Martinez

After reading this particular case, it is easy to say that Cynthia Martinez is in a difficult situation. She is at a company right now, but her company’s rival has offered her
another job, with a higher salary. She is currently in the middle of a major project and must leave the project team and goals in order to take the new job. Ethically, it is a sticky situation for anyone to be involved with. Should Cynthia take the job and leave her team stranded, while benefiting herself? Or, should she pass on the job offer that she has been waiting for and continue to grow within her current company? Whatever decision Cynthia chooses will not only affect her, but the people around her as well. She is a respected employee at her current job and to leave would disappoint as well as aggravate a lot of people. If I was in her shoes, the decision would be easy. I would explain my situation, from an ethical viewpoint, to my prospective employer and describe to him that if I leave my company now, I will be letting down others that I’ve built up. If he doesn’t understand, want to hear about it, or simply disagrees with my opinion, then I will be forced to notify him that I refuse to work in an unethical organization. We all know that running business is a complicated and tricky thing to do, but as an ethical citizen, I would rather work for a company that at least has basic ethical standpoints, especially relating to a situation like this.

Taking on a role as a project leader is a major responsibility to you and others involved in the project. It comes with a great amount of unwritten rules and procedures that you may not learn unless you’ve experienced them. Cynthia started this project before she even looked at another company. This establishment of a future goal is motivation for the entire team, and to abandon that hope they hold would simply be, morally wrong. Cynthia has a loyalty to maintain to both her company and to her co-workers. As stated earlier, as Cynthia is the project leader, she cannot simply get up and leave her current responsibilities behind.
3. The most important ethical question of my lifetime:

This particular question has been wandering around in my thoughts for some time now. With several ethical questions facing me each and every day, it’s difficult to choose one that overpowers them all. If I had to make the decision to choose, then I believe the most important ethical decision will be on the topic of abortion. I know a lot of people will choose this topic and I can’t even argue against it, it makes sense. I chose this because I feel that it is the biggest ethical question at this current point in my life, but I also feel that with time, some sort of medication or procedure will come about, ideally eliminating abortion all together. I don’t even know where to start on my ideas for this procedure, all I know is that I have huge faith in the medical field and their advances the make every day. All in all, I believe that the most important ethical question of my lifetime will be: “Is it ethical/moral to have an abortion, in any case?”