Ethical Stance, Women at Work and the World of Tomorrow

1) In my belief ethical systems must be relative to the societal structure you live in. These systems are heavily based upon your culture, upbringing, religious views and life experiences. They are what create your reference point to the world around you. In my opinion there is no right or wrong ethical system, each person is entitled to follow their own set of rules. But that person must also accept the consequences of their ethical system if they interfere with government law.

Personally I like to use natural human rights as a base for my own ethical system. Does this decision directly deter life, freedom or the pursuit of happiness (monetary or emotional) to anyone involved? On a personal level, am I forcing my will on another person for self interested purposes? By doing so am I negatively impacting their natural rights? If so I would oppose the decision. There is an exception when the circumstances presented threaten the safety and security of family and friends.

If this test is passed I would further analyze the situation. I would question whether this decision has a societal impact. If so, will it have a positive or negative impact in advancing or maintaining our society? Determining a positive or negative impact is based on complete analysis of the situation and can’t be broken down to a simple formula. For example, for violent criminals, I believe with the structure of our current justice and prison systems capital punishment is necessary. Without it honest citizens’ natural rights are being indirectly affected because of the crimes committed by others through excessive taxation to house them in prison for life. This involves evaluating the justice system first and analyzing its structure to determine the affect of capital punishment on our society.
Overall my ethical system is based on the synthesis of principal, obligation and intuition. I think that breaking down ethical systems to simple formulas is helpful in some ways to recognize inconsistencies in logic but overall I like to evaluate every decision I make from multiple perspectives and work from there rather than base my opinions around a couple of hard and fast principals.

2) Forcing women to choose either a career oriented track or career-family track is mindless. This is a way for companies to further forecast need for employment and minimizing their own risks. To make a woman choose at the beginning of her career whether she wants to raise a family or not is similar to asking a kindergarten student at age 5 whether he/she wants to go to college of trade school. Especially in today’s society where “30 is the new 20” it’s hard for someone at a young age to make this choice. These decisions come with age and life experience. Suppose a woman who has had unsuccessful relationships decides she is through with finding a spouse to raise a family out of frustration in that stage of her life. A couple years down the road she meets someone who changes her outlook altogether and she changes decides she has found her soul mate and wants a family. With this structure there would no doubt be legal repercussions to changing tracks after the decision has been made. Choices such as these should be left to the person involved especially without interference from a corporation. Beyond the fact that this structure is discriminatory to women in many ways personal and career choices should never overlap in this way.

3) In my opinion the globalization of democracy, brain augmentation, human cloning and life in virtual environments will be major ethical questions during the course of my life.