Ethics is knowing the difference between what you have a right to do and what is right to do.

Potter Stewart
Definition

- ethics . . .
  . . . is the study of values, of how we ought to live
  . . . is used interchangeably with morals and values (beliefs; standards by which we live and make decisions)
  . . . denotes systematic, rational reflection upon a particular behavior

- values . . .
  . . . are defined as standards or ideals which serve as guides to conduct and decision making (Conneely, 1990)

http://frank.mtsu.edu/~u101irm/manske.html
5 Corner Stones of Ethical Behavior

- Do what you say you will do
- Never divulge information given to you in confidence
- Accept responsibility for your mistakes
- Never become involved in a lie
- Avoid accepting gifts that compromise your ability to perform in the best interests of the organization

(Manske, 1987)

http://frank.mtsu.edu/~u101irm/manske.html
Importance of Ethical behavior

- a. Ethical behavior establishes trust.
- b. Unethical behavior leads to organizational dysfunction.
- c. Unethical behavior creates Hall/Community/Staff outrage.
- d. Unethical behavior could create a personal moral dilemma.

http://frank.mtsu.edu/~u101irm/ethicslp.html
Steps to Making Ethical Decisions

1. Think through the ethical dilemma and identify all components as objectively as possible.
2. Consider your options.
3. Decide which option is the most ethical.
4. How can the option be implemented?
5. What are the consequences of your decision?

Boatman 1987
http://frank.mtsu.edu/~u101irm/steps.html
Importance of Ethical behavior in the Hall

- Walk the walk and talk the talk

- Fishbowl Philosophy

- Social Media
  - Facebook/ Instagram/ Twitter
    - Pictures
    - Language use
    - Conduct

Let's Google you!
TOP TEN QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK YOURSELF WHEN MAKING AN ETHICAL DECISION

10. Could the decision become habit forming? If so, don't do it.
9. Is it legal? If it isn't, don't do it.
8. Is it safe? If it isn't, don't do it.
7. Is it the right thing to do? If it isn't, don't do it.
6. Will this stand the test of public scrutiny? If it won't, don't do it.
TOP TEN QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD ASK YOURSELF WHEN MAKING AN ETHICAL DECISION Conti...

5. If something terrible were to happen, could I defend my actions? If you can't, don't do it.
4. Is it just, balanced, and fair? If it isn't, don't do it.
3. How will it make me feel about myself? If it's lousy, don't do it.
2. Does this choice lead to the greatest good for the greatest number? If it doesn't, don't do it. And the #1 question you should ask yourself when making an ethical decision:
1. Would I do this in front of my mother/guardian/family? If you wouldn't, don't do it.

(Taylor, 1990)

http://frank.mtsu.edu/~u101irm/ethicques.html
Resources

- ETHICS and Values Clarification –
  http://frank.mtsu.edu/~u101irm/ethicslp.html

- It's ok Son, everybody does it. –