# ETHICAL DECISION MAKING MODEL





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#### **INTRODUCTION**

- Ethical Reasoning is helped by a decision procedure, or template, suggesting a pattern of steps to follow in order to solve puzzling problems.
- In moral problem, we know what is right, but we may have very good reasons not to want too do it or we may be puzzled about the right way to say "No" or the best means to obtain the best outcome.
- There are three types of Ethical Reasoning:-
- 1. ADAPT: An Approach to Moral Decision Making
- 2. ORDER: Confronting Complexities
- 3. **DEAL**: Carrying on Without Resolution

## <u>ADAPT – An Approach to Moral Decision Making</u>

- A Attention
- D Dialogue (with the community)
- A Assumptions (Moral Assumptions)
- P Proposals (for action)
- T Test

i) Attention: Some condition is brought to light, some situation or array of facts. This captures over attention, alerts us to something that requires over concern.

- ii) <u>Dialogue</u>: The condition is discussed, the information disseminated through the community, a community dialogue is conducted where public opinion is actually formed.
- iii) Assumptions: The discussion incorporates the moral assumptions that guide our lives, ordinarily without conscious thinking about. Lives have to be saved.
- iv) <u>Proposals</u>: Proposals for actions are put forward and policies adopted. Decisions are made, implementing the imperatives in a way appropriate to the situation that caught our attention.
- ii) <u>Test</u>: The results of the actions are tested against the results expected. The test results are fed back into the data from the initial situation. Was the action taken in fact appropriate? Were the imperatives successfully implemented?

#### ORDER – Confronting Complexities

- O Options & Outcomes
- R Right & Rules
- D Determination, decision
- **E Evaluation of effects**
- R Review, reconsideration
- i) Options & outcomes :- We should organise our options in the situation what alternatives are really open to us? And note the probable outcomes of each. What, in this situation is it possible and reasonable for us to do?

- ii) Rights & rules: We must review the rights of the various participants, for legally protected rights. We must also respect moral rules that are held to be valid regardless of each consequences.
- iii) <u>Determination, decision</u>: This is the third step whereby after weighing the options & outcomes, considering the rights of the mother versus the rights of the children, a decision needs to be taken that is whether to put the mother in an old age home, bringing her nurse by the day time, etc.
- iv) Evaluation of effects: It is the next step whereby the decision taken and the effects they have are to be evaluated & worked upon.
- v) <u>Review, reconsideration</u>:- After evaluation of effects, the act needs to be reviewed & if need be, other options needs to be consider.

### <u>DEAL – Carrying on without resolution</u>

#### **DIS**

- D Definition of Dilemma
- I Inquiry to obtain all necessary information
- S Sorting out the stakeholders

i) <u>Definition of Dilemma</u> – It is proposed that definition of the dilemma i.e; highlighting the ethical dilemma of a particular situation is the first step in solving the case.

- ii) <u>Inquiry to obtain all information</u> The second step is to begin an inquiry into the matter to obtain the necessary information.
- iii) Sorting out the stakeholders In this step, the stakeholders or the constituent people need to be identified so as to weigh the options feasible in the situation.

#### <u>DEAL</u>

- D Dialogue to reach decision
- **E Experiment (execution of the decision)**
- A Assessment (how good the decision was)
- L Legitimacy (is it legitimate to advice others

- i) <u>Dialogue</u> In this, representatives of two communities coming to dialogue to achieve a practical solution.
- ii) <u>Experiment</u> In second step, the resolutions reach at in the process of dialogue are implemented in the spirit of an experiment to see how well they work.
- iii) <u>Assessment</u> The resolutions experimented are now reviewed as per their rate of success and are thus corrected to suit the requirement of the situation.
- iv) <u>Legitimacy</u> This is the final step where depending on the success of the experiment, both the sides have now come to a solution and acknowledged each other's legitimacy.

#### **CONCLUSION**

- An ethical dilemma is when your values and what you want to do conflict.
- Ethical reasoning is a type of critical thinking that uses ethical principles and frameworks.
- It is a process of identifying ethical issues and weighing multiple perspectives to make informed decisions.
- Ethical reasoning is not only knowing right from wrong, but being able to think about and respond to a problem fairly, justly and responsibly.

#### **REFERENCES**

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