

# Would you rather be Ethical or Right?

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Let's Get Ethical!!





Would you rather  
always sing when  
you talk or dance  
when you walk?



Would you rather be  
stuck in an elevator  
or on a ski lift for  
five hours?



Would you rather  
have a severe  
mental illness or be  
substance  
dependant?



Would you end war  
or world hunger?

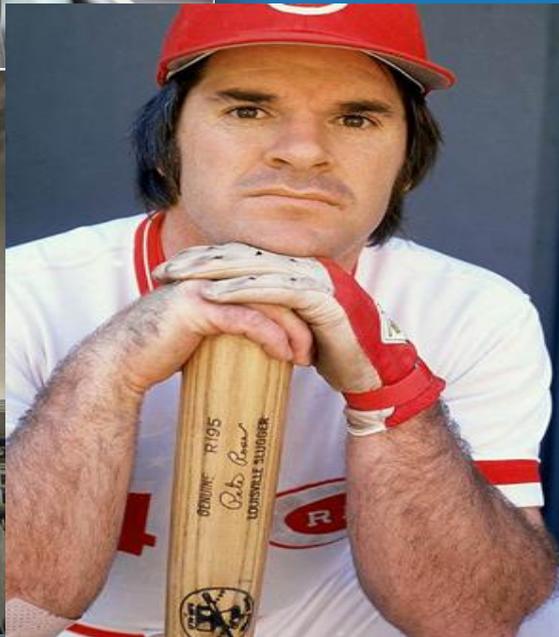
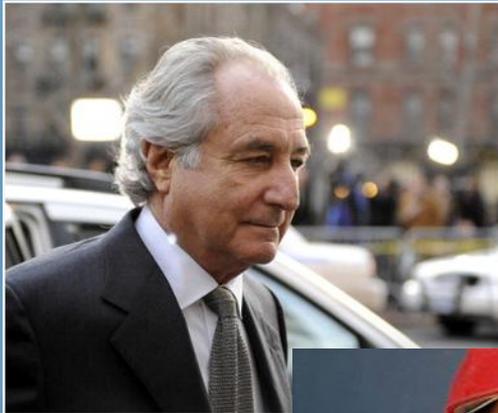
# Ethics - What is it?



# WHAT ARE ETHICS?

- *Fills the middle ground between law and religion*
  - *The law deals with criminal activity and punishment (sets a floor or minimum)*
  - *Religion deals with virtue and sin (sets goal or ideal).*
- *Organizational or professional ethics falls in between -- it goes well above the law, and links to the personal beliefs of a profession.*

# You and Ethics



# WHO ESTABLISHES WHAT IS “ETHICAL?”

- You do.
  - 1) Personal Beliefs
  - 2) Religion
  - 3) Family Values
  - 4) Community Structure
  - 5) Culture
- Political Institutions and Officials
- Licensing Boards, businesses and agencies, law, etc.
- Your Employer
- Department’s ethics center around traditional values such as trust, loyalty and commitment, honesty and respect for one another, teamwork, customer focus, innovation and continuous improvement.



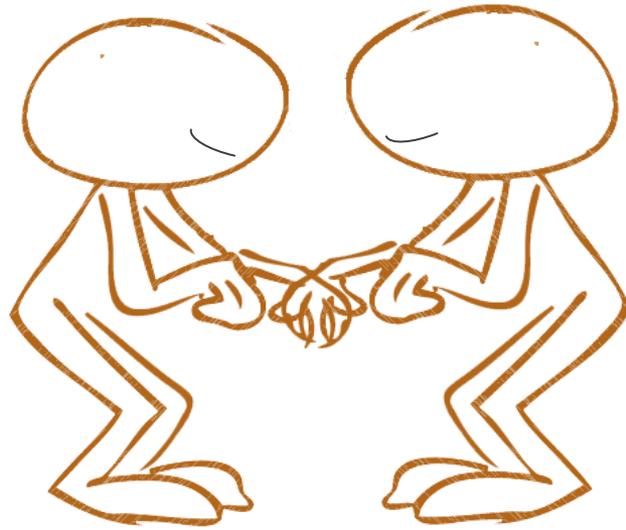
# EXAMPLES OF POSSIBLE ETHICAL CHOICES

- ❖ *What do you do for a living?*
- ❖ *Tax Structure – Who pays and how much*
- ❖ *Getting more change than you were supposed to*
- ❖ *Speeding*
- ❖ *“Do these jeans make me look fat?”*
- ❖ *Which stores do you frequent?*

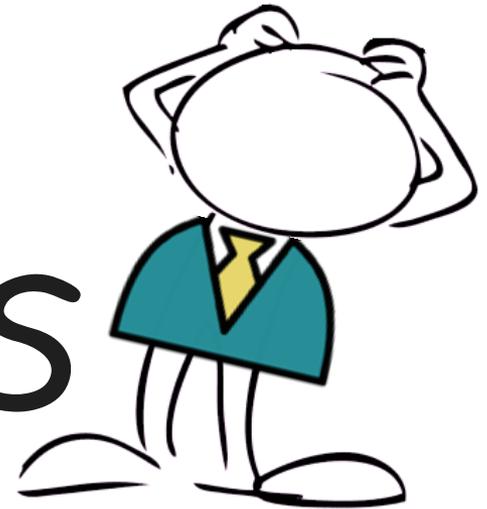
# You and Ethics



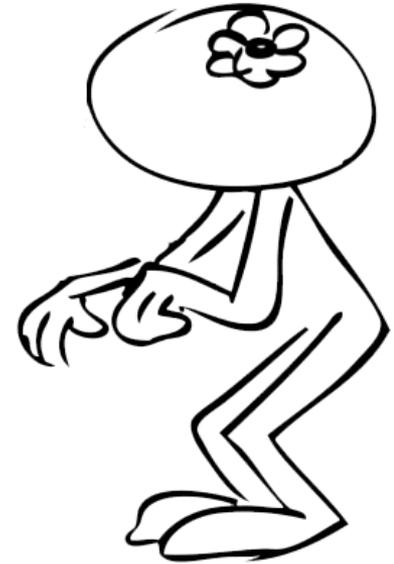
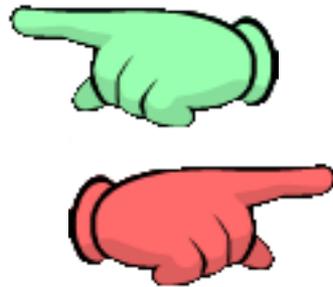
# You, Ethics, Co-Workers & Leadership



ETHICS



# You, Ethics and Your Client





Would you rather  
pay a consumer's  
phone bill, or give  
them a pre-paid  
phone?



Would you rather  
give a consumer  
cigarettes or  
alcohol?

# THINGS TO CONSIDER IN ETHICAL SCENARIOS

- *Power Differential between provider and consumer*
- *Is there a dual relationship? If so, is it an acceptable one?*
- *Can it cause harm to the consumer or violate a consumer's rights?*
- *Are your personal ethics, beliefs, values interfering with a consumer's rights or best interests? If so, "Bracket and Put Aside."*
- *Have you been transparent?*
- *Have you staffed the situation?*

# SA TREATMENT QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER...

1. *Is addiction a medical condition that physiologically changes brain chemistry?*
2. *Is there a genetic correlation to addiction?*
3. *Is relapse a part of recovery?*

# SCENARIOS

- *Consumers who relapse while in treatment.*
- *Consumers who take mood altering chemicals while receiving treatment.*
- *Consumers who need chronic pain management.*
- *Consumers in recovery who have cultural/religious rituals involving substances.*
- *Consumers who cannot abstain.*
- *Give a Drug/MH court participant a ride to work or give them gas money?*
- *Defend yourself against a consumer?*
- *Can you slap a consumer?*

# CONFIDENTIALITY GROUP SCENARIOS

- *HIV Positive Consumer having unprotected sex.*
- *Juvenile Consumer riding in cars with intoxicated drivers.*
- *Consumer who may be intoxicated or hung over while working – (Surgeon, Bus Driver).*
- *“Confessions” while in mandated treatment that may have consequences.*
- *A consumer who is a life-long friend confides in you that she was “groped” by a therapist in a different treatment setting and makes you swear you will not tell.*

## **BIG “ETHICAL” PICTURE**

- *Providers shall avoid relationships or commitments that: (1) conflict with the interest of consumers; (2) impair professional judgment; or (3) create risk of harm or exploitation to consumers.*

# EXPECTATIONS OF STAFF:

- *Responsible Ethics depends on all of us.*
- *Discuss issues with supervisors/licensure boards/treatment teams.*
- *Legal obligation to report possible rights violations to: **Office of Consumer Advocacy***
  - Toll free: 866-699-6605*
  - Office of Inspector General***
  - Toll free: 877-426-4058*
- *Legal obligation to report ethical violations to licensing boards or regulators.*
- *Initiate C.I.R.*

Would you Rather be...

**Ethical or Right?**