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Ethics in Action: Concepts, Practice, and Context

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Ethics in Action: Concepts, Practice, and Context



Event Materials

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Today's Presenter



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Learning Objectives

1

Explore ethical frameworks that promote justice, fairness, and equity.

2

Delve into the practical application of ethical perspectives in the decision-making process.

3

Acknowledge the potential influence of personal experiences and preferences on professional perspectives and discover strategies to mitigate bias and subjectivity.

4

Identify avenues for advancing professional expertise in ethics and related areas through OneOp resources.

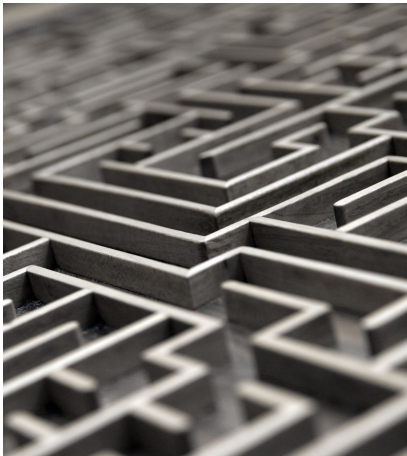
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Lesson One: Frameworks

Explore ethical frameworks that advocate for justice, fairness, and equity.



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Ethics: Right & Wrong, Do's & Don'ts

- Ethics is often framed as the difference between right and wrong.
- Delineating right from wrong and establishing “do’s” and “don’ts” are familiar in establishing behavioral expectations, establishing rules, and shaping culture.

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Ethics in Action

It is entirely possible for well-intentioned individuals to make poor decisions. Ethical decision making and practice helps to better inform and guide our understanding and action.



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Ethics as Informed Decision Making

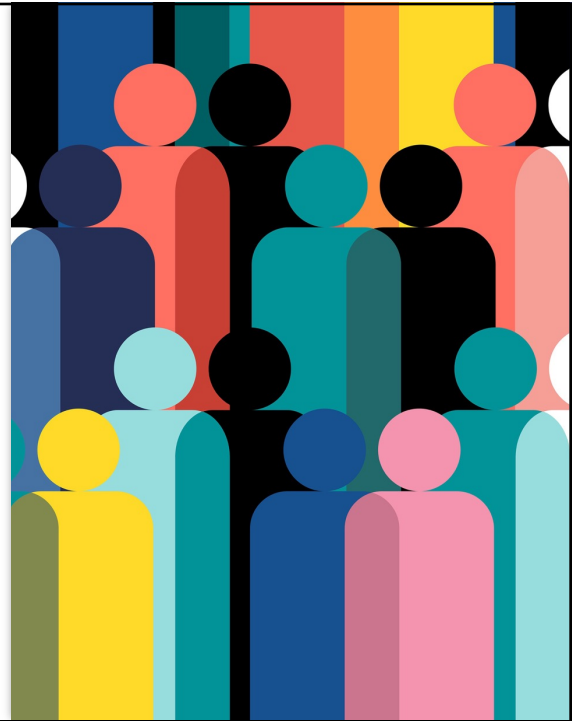


Ethical decision making often means encountering choices and decisions that are not necessarily wrong or right, but instead require informed judgement and perspective.

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General Considerations for Ethical Action

Utilitarianism: When examining utilities for society as a whole, the preferred choice is that which produces the greatest good for the greatest number (Svara 2015, p. 73).



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Assessing Utilitarian Claims & Rationale

- Who defines the greatest good?
- How is the greatest good measured?
- What about those who do not benefit from the greatest good?
- What about those who sacrifice and lose for the greatest good?
- What can be done to mitigate impacts and consequences of utilitarian style decisions and actions?

To learn more, see Rawls 1985, Svara 2015.



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Justice: Who Speaks For Those Not Present?

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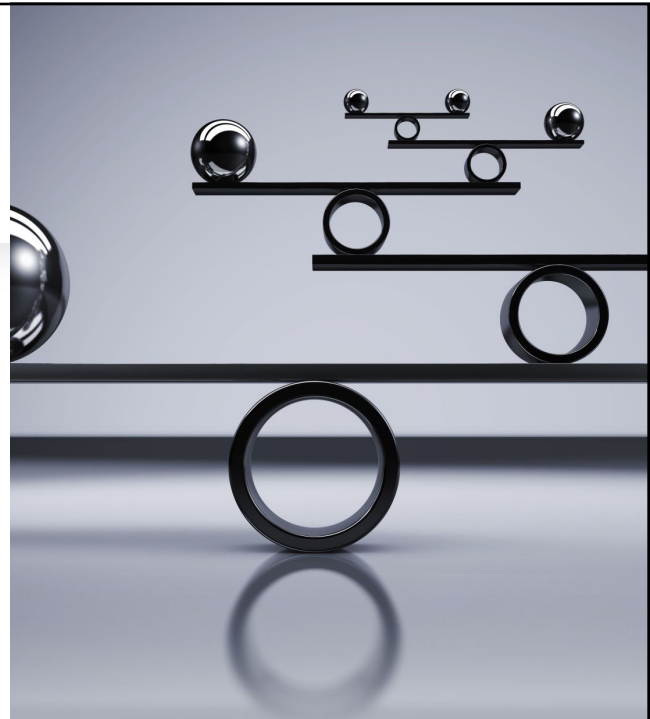


Lesson 2: Practical Applications for Ethics

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Ethics & Discretion

Ethics involve reflective choice, not simply following rules (Svara 2015, p. 91).



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Ethical Decision Making in Practice

Because helping professionals are delegated responsibility, they exercise discretion in identifying, prioritizing, and addressing matters of concern and importance.

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Ethical Decision Making in Practice



How can discretion lead to ethical concerns?



How can ethical thinking guide discretion?

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Social Equity & Public Service

Social equity concerns fall naturally within the purview of public administration, for government is the entity of last resort when the market and social dynamics create problems that do not resolve on their own (Guy and McCandless 2012, pg. S12).

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Lesson 3:
Acknowledging
our Limitations
& Applying
Strategies to
Address Them


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Threats to Individual Ethical Behavior

- Bias, heuristics, and hubris (jumping to conclusions)
- Self-interest/conflict of interest (active and accidental)
- Abdication or disinterest (failure to act or delay)
- Lack of training (ignorance of rules, policies, and regulations)




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Threats to Organization-Based Ethical Behavior

- Status and role confusion
- Group think
- Normalization of deviance and rationalization

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Professional Ethics

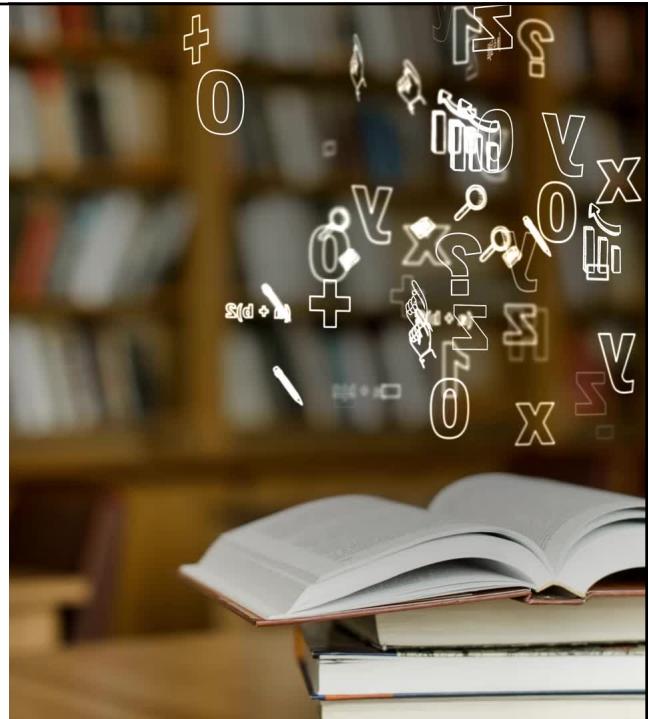
- Ethical behavior benefits from contextual awareness of role, responsibility, accountability, and expectation.
- Professional socialization, codes of ethics, and legal and regulatory policies and systems help to inform.

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Codes of Ethics

The importance of ethical codes. For example, according to Svava (2014), codes of ethics serve to:

- Educate
- Regulate
- Inspire



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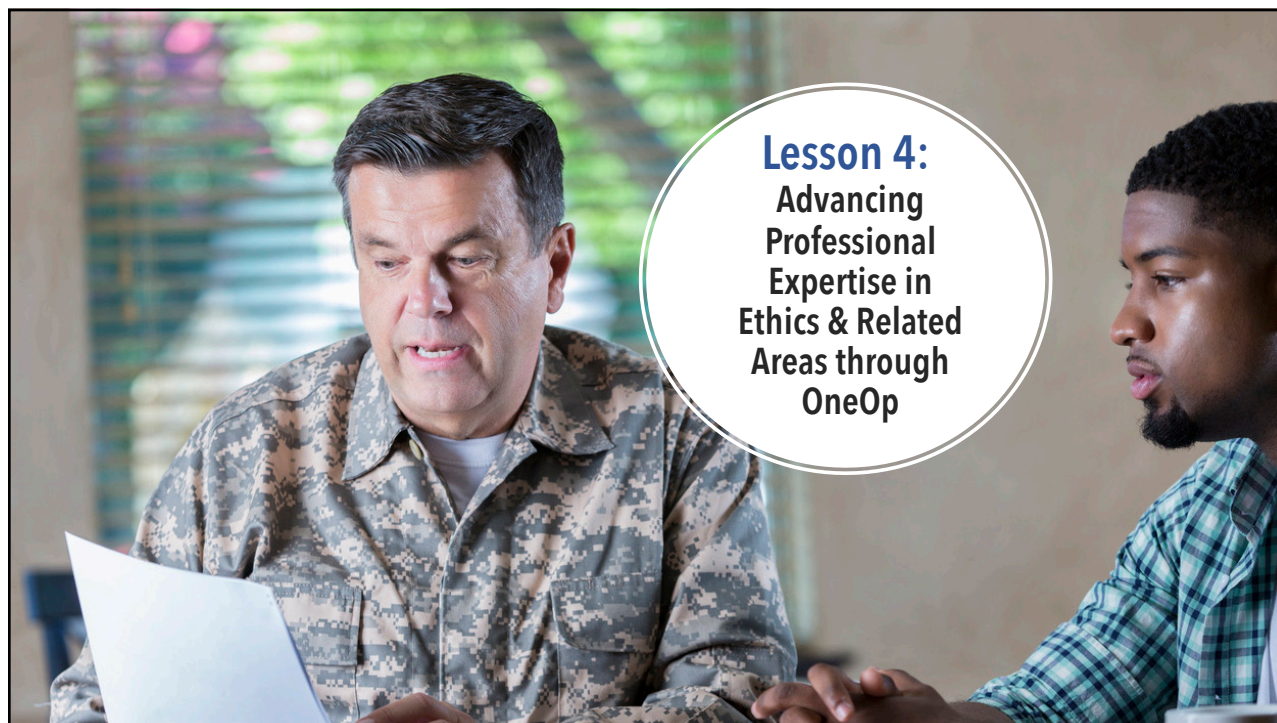


An Ethics Checklist

Consider the following:

- To whom are decisions and actions directed?
- To what purpose?
- What are the trade-offs and consequences?
- What evidence and information are they based on?
- Who gets to make the decisions?
- Who's **not** at the table?

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OneOp: Professional Development Opportunities in Ethics & Social Justice

As a single-point of entry for professional development for military family service providers, OneOp offers many resources relating to ethics and social justice. Recent programming has focused on:

- Applied ethics in such areas as personal finance, caregiving, crisis management, and more.
- Social justice considerations for military family service providers focusing on such issues as inclusion, diversity, and equity.
- Cultural competency and self-awareness to help guide providers in their professional roles.

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OneOp: Professional Development Opportunities in Ethics & Social Justice

Coming Soon:

- An upcoming course on "Professional Ethics in Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education."

Additional Resources:

- https://oneop.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Ethics-Resources_Dec2023.pdf

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Resources & References

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Continuing Education



This webinar has been approved for
1.0 continuing education (CE) credit:

- Board Certified Patient Advocates (BCPA)
- Case Manager Certification
- Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE)
- Certified in Family and Consumer Sciences (CFCS)
- Social Work, LPC, LMFT

Evaluation Link

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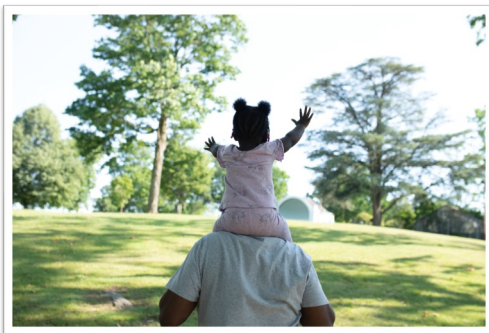
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Upcoming Webinar



IECMH: Practical Strategies to Support Attachment Relationships

January 18, 2023, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM ET

Join us and add to your “attachment” toolbox with ideas for ensuring young children and families can develop and experience healthy attachment relationships.

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