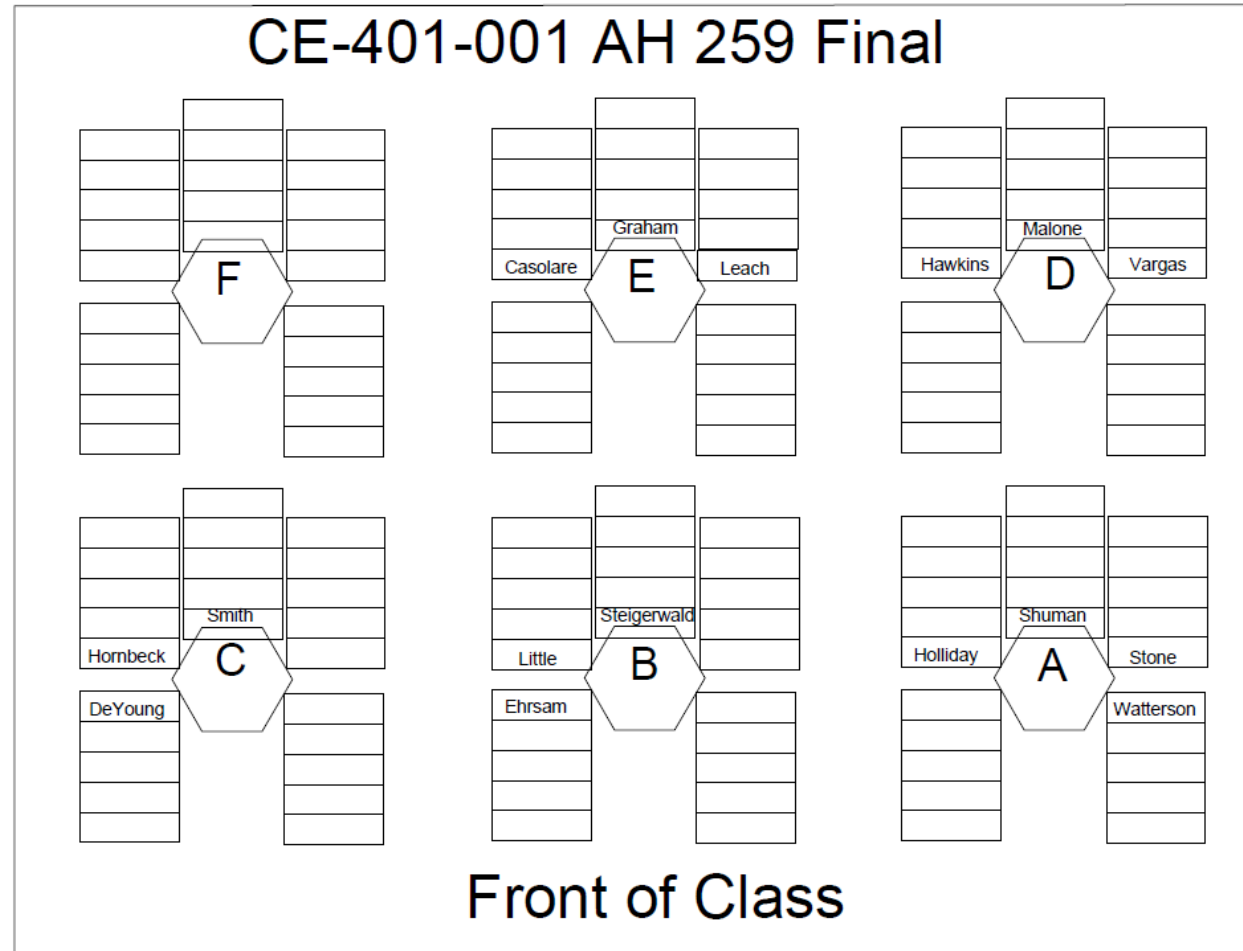




CE 401 Civil Engineering Seminar

General Questions:

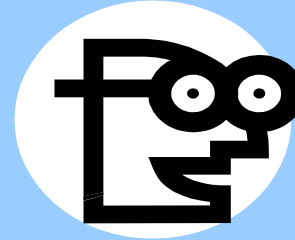
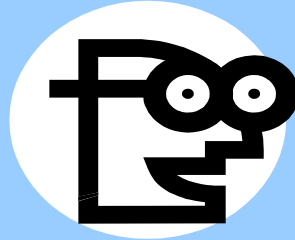
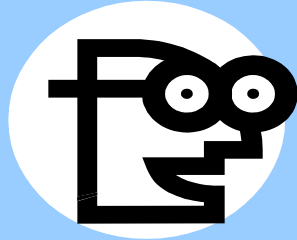
If your Group wants another seating order at your table, be sure to notify me of the preferred order by marking up the hard copy of this seating chart **before class today.**





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General Questions:



It's QUESTION TIME!!



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Nice Guys Finish Last

•WEEK 2: DISCUSSION GROUP ACTIVITY

- Group Formation went very well,**
 - All groups set before the deadline, and
 - The final group of students placed in the only unfilled group
- Initial posting work on the questions proceeded a little slower than usual, response rates =

100.0%	100.0%
--------	--------
- Overall, the quality of the initial posts was good.
- Consensus building was very nicely done, for the most part, but some confusion about consensus building procedures and leader assignments occurred.

Good Job!



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•WEEK 2: PARTICIPATION RATES

	WEEK 01 PARTICIPATION RATES				WEEK 02 PARTICIPATION RATES			
	Week-Sect	1-1	Week-Sect	1-2	Week-Sect	2-1	Week-Sect	2-2
	Initial Posts	Posts	Initial Posts	Posts	Initial Posts	Posts	Initial Posts	Posts
	By Wed noon	Any Time	By Wed noon	Any Time	By Wed noon	Any Time	By Wed noon	Any Time
Spring 25	64.6%	81.3%	47.1%	64.7%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Fall 24			60.6%	100.0%			87.9%	98.5%
Spring 24	58.8%	100.0%	85.0%	100.0%	74.5%	98.0%	95.0%	100.0%
Fall 23	42.9%	85.7%	25.0%	96.7%	87.5%	100.0%	93.3%	100.0%
Spring 23	47.2%	100.0%	65.0%	100.0%	98.6%	100.0%	93.8%	97.5%
Fall 22	52.2%	91.3%	65.0%	100.0%	87.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Spring 22	50.8%	90.5%	65.3%	93.1%	85.7%	100.0%	95.8%	100.0%
Fall 21	42.2%	95.6%	47.8%	89.9%	93.3%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Spring 21	27.8%	77.8%	53.0%	95.5%	94.4%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Fall 20	64.7%	100.0%	45.5%	100.0%	90.9%	100.0%	98.3%	100.0%
Avg. Prior 4 Years	48.3%	92.6%	56.4%	96.9%	89.0%	99.8%	97.0%	99.7%
	This Semester		Prior 4 Years		This Semester		Prior 4 Years	
Combined Sections	47.1%	64.7%	52.9%	95.6%	100.0%	100.0%	92.9%	99.6%



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Nice Guys Finish Last

•SECTION 1 DISCUSSION GROUPS

SECTION 1 DISCUSSION GROUPS

	1	2	3	4	5
A	Holliday	Shuman	Stone	Watterson	
B	Ehrsam	Little	Steigerwald		
C	DeYoung	Hornbeck	Smith		
D	Hawkins	Malone	Vargas		
E	Casolare	Graham	Leach		
F					



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WEEK 2: DISCUSSION ACTIVITY

Timely Initial Posts: 100.0% Current Participation: 1 Last Update 24-Jan-25 12:53 PM

Section 1 Week 2 Discussion Question Activity Report

Question	Group	Leader	1	2	3	4	5
1	B	Steigerwald	Ehrsam	Little	Steigerwald		
1	D	Malone	Hawkins	Malone	Vargas		
1	F						
2	A	Shuman	Holliday	Shuman	Stone	Watterson	
2	C	Hornbeck	DeYoung	Hornbeck	Smith		
2	E	Graham	Casolare	Graham	Leach		
3	B	Ehrsam	Ehrsam	Little	Steigerwald		
3	D	Vargas	Hawkins	Malone	Vargas		
3	E	Casolare	Casolare	Graham	Leach		
4	A	Holliday	Holliday	Shuman	Stone	Watterson	
4	C	DeYoung	DeYoung	Hornbeck	Smith		
4	F						
5	B	Little	Ehrsam	Little	Steigerwald		
5	C	Smith	DeYoung	Hornbeck	Smith		
5	E	Leach	Casolare	Graham	Leach		
6	A	Stone	Holliday	Shuman	Stone	Watterson	
6	D	Hawkins	Hawkins	Malone	Vargas		
6	F						

Font Legend

non-bold No post made, time for posting remains

Bold / Bold Post made within Time

Non-Bold Leader-No Consensus Posted, -5 Points

non-bold

Bold

Ital. non-bold

Late Post before consensus, 20% loss

Post is made after consensus, 60% loss

No Post Made, 100% loss



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ESSAY TEAMS

Essay team formation has proceeded well, and you can see the Section 1 teams to the right.

Will leave process open for one more week to allow the last four of you to form your own teams.

ESSAY TEAMS - SECTION 1

Last Update

2-Person Teams

2

1/24/2025 12:53

Unassigned Students

AMBER

Student Formed Teams

BLACK

Assigned Teams

RED

Little, Sam Ethan	101
Steigerwald, Jason Daniel	101
Stone, Tyler S	102
Watterson, James M	102
Holliday, Christian Enoch	103
Shuman, Dwayne	103
Hornbeck, Miles Addison	104
Malone, Zachary T	104
Casolare, Amanda Lynne	105
Smith, Clay E	105
DeYoung, Campbell Nicholas	106
Ehrsam, John Matthew	106
Graham, Ben Thomas	
Hawkins, Zach Taylor	
Leach, Ryan Jacob	
Vargas, Ali Mariana	



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Nice Guys Finish Last

QUIZ 1 RESULTS

Quiz 1

Range: 12-20; Average 18.4

W/ Text Historic 10-20; Average 16.6

0.606 (20 of 33) Perfect Scores on Quiz 1

Note: Historic Range is for the Post TEXT period

Quiz scores for quiz 1 are higher than the historic performance results.



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Whistle Blowing Decisions

The real question that we must address is:

**WHEN SHOULD A PERSON BLOW THE WHISTLE
ON ANOTHER PERSON?**

- 1. Is it when you disagree with what another person believes?**



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Whistle Blowing Decisions

The real question that we must address is:

**WHEN SHOULD A PERSON BLOW THE WHISTLE
ON ANOTHER PERSON?**

1. Is it when you disagree with what another person believes? **Probably Not**
2. Is it when you disagree with what another person does?



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Whistle Blowing Decisions

The real question that we must address is:

**WHEN SHOULD A PERSON BLOW THE WHISTLE
ON ANOTHER PERSON?**

1. Is it when you disagree with what another person believes? **Probably Not**
2. Is it when you disagree with what another person does? **Perhaps**



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Whistle Blowing Decisions

If the focus is on how other people act:

**IS ANY DISAGREEABLE ACTION SUFFICIENT TO
JUSTIFY WHISTLE BLOWING?**

- 1. What if the disagreeable action does not impact anyone other than the actor?**



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Whistle Blowing Decisions

If the focus is on how other people act:

**IS ANY DISAGREEABLE ACTION SUFFICIENT TO
JUSTIFY WHISTLE BLOWING?**

- 1. What if the disagreeable action does not impact anyone other than the actor? **Probably Not****
- 2. What if the disagreeable action only affects the actor and you?**



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Whistle Blowing Decisions

If the focus is on how other people act:

**IS ANY DISAGREEABLE ACTION SUFFICIENT TO
JUSTIFY WHISTLE BLOWING?**

1. What if the disagreeable action does not impact anyone other than the actor? **Probably Not**
2. What if the disagreeable action only affects the actor and you? **Probably Not**
3. What if the disagreeable action affects others like a client, users of a product, or the public?



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Whistle Blowing Decisions

If the focus is on how other people act:

**IS ANY DISAGREEABLE ACTION SUFFICIENT TO
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3. What if the disagreeable action affects others like a client, users of a product, or the public?

Perhaps



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Whistle Blowing Decisions

If the focus is an action that affects others:

WHAT IF THE ACTION THAT AFFECTS OTHERS, SUCH AS CLIENTS, USERS, THE PUBLIC, AND THE AFFECT IS:

- 1. A violation of the client's preference.**



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Whistle Blowing Decisions

If the focus is an action affects others:

WHAT IF THE ACTION THAT AFFECTS OTHERS, SUCH AS CLIENTS, USERS, THE PUBLIC, AND THE AFFECT IS:

1. A violation of the client's preference. **Probably Not**
2. 1 above and will increase the cost of production for the client.



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Whistle Blowing Decisions

If the focus is an action affects others:

WHAT IF THE ACTION THAT AFFECTS OTHERS, SUCH AS CLIENTS, USERS, THE PUBLIC, AND THE AFFECT IS:

1. A violation of the client's preference. **Probably Not**
2. 1 above and will increase the cost of production for the client. **Probably Not**
3. 1 and 2 above and will pose serious risk to workers and/or the public.



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Whistle Blowing Decisions

If the focus is an action affects others:

WHAT IF THE ACTION THAT AFFECTS OTHERS, SUCH AS CLIENTS, USERS, THE PUBLIC, AND THE AFFECT IS:

1. A violation of the client's preference. **Probably Not**
2. 1 above and will increase the cost of production for the client. **Probably Not**
3. 1 and 2 above and will pose serious safety risk to workers and/or the public. **Perhaps**



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Whistle Blowing Decisions

The Focus of Whistle Blowing Decisions only begins when an action will cause serious risk to others, like workers and/or the public,

AND

The Decision should be made with utmost care to determine:

- **Whether there is moral authority to act, and**
- **Whether there is a moral duty to act**



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Discussion Question #1

When a person faces a potential whistle blowing action, that person must make a decision.



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Discussion Question #1

When a person faces a potential whistle blowing action, that person must make a decision.

To Act or Not To Act, That is the question:

- 1) Are decisions to not act (to remain quiet) appropriate?**



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #1

When a person faces a potential whistle blowing action, that person must make a decision.

To Act or Not To Act, That is the question:

- 1) Are decisions to not act (to remain quiet) appropriate? Some are, but not ALL, because there are some situations that require action.**
- 2) Are decisions to act (to blow the whistle) appropriate?**



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #1

When a person faces a potential whistle blowing action, that person must make a decision.

To Act or Not To Act, That is the question:

- 1) Are decisions to not act (to remain quiet) appropriate? Some are, but not ALL, because there are some situations that require action.**
- 2) Are decisions to act (to blow the whistle) appropriate? Some are, but not ALL, because there are some situations that blowing the whistle would be wrong.**



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #1

This week's video focuses on four cases that demonstrate how whistleblowers are usually treated. Over the weeks ahead, we will be examining whistleblowing from a variety of perspectives.

1. Define "Whistle Blowing"

2. By expanding your definition of "Whistle Blowing" in #1, define "Internal" and "External" whistleblowing, and for each, respond to each of the following:

- 1. Who does the whistleblower tell?**
- 2. Who is the whistleblower's target?**
- 3. What is the whistleblower's goal?**

3. For each of the cases featured in this week's video:

- 1. Identify the whistleblower(s)**
- 2. Identify the whistleblowers' target**
- 3. Describe the relationship between each whistleblower and target. For example, the relationship may have been family, friends, employer/employee, consultant/client, etc.**

B	Steigerwald
D	Malone
F	



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Information About The Whistle Blowers

Whistle Blower	Case	Target	Relationship
Glen Plumlee	Alaska Pipeline	Alyeska (BP, Mobil, Exxon)	Employee
Chuck Hamel	Alaska Pipeline	Alyeska (BP, Mobil, Exxon)	Business Assoc
Dr. Boisjoly	Challenger	Morton ThioloI/NASA	Employee
Steven Agee	Challenger	Morton ThioloI/NASA	Consultant (Spy?)
Gordon Harris	Police Corruption	Queensland Police Dept.	Employee
Ed Bricker	Hanford Nuclear Waste	Federal Government (Owner)	Employee
Inez Austin	Hanford Nuclear Waste	Federal Government (Owner)	Employee



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Whistle Blowing Decisions

What Is Whistle Blowing?

Bowie (1982): *the act of an employee informing the public on the immoral or illegal behavior of an employee or supervisor.*

Bok (1997) *an act in which one makes revelations meant to call attention to negligence, abuses, or dangers that threaten the public interest.*

Whistle Blowing Decisions are a special kind of Ethical Decision

De George, and others, provide criteria for these decisions
In a couple of weeks, we will look at a general model for Ethical Decision Making (Josephson)



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Internal and External Whistleblowing

Internal whistleblowing: An employee's first step to report something unethical (or illegal) happening inside the company.

If the wrongdoing has occurred at an organizational level below the whistle blower, why not simply fix the issue without the internal reporting?

If the wrongdoing occurs at an organizational level equal or above the whistle blower, the whistle blower reports wrongdoing to a higher level.

The target of the internal whistleblowing action is usually a company employee

External whistleblowing: A person taking steps to report company misconduct to an outsider. This may address misconduct by an entity or an individual, and generally it is an employer, client, supplier or competitor.

Whistleblowers might report to a private lawyer, the press, directly to a government agency or prosecutor, or via a public hotline.

The target of the external whistleblowing action is usually the company (organization).

De George requires internal whistleblowing before external can be proper
Our conversations about whistle blowing only address external actions unless specifically referencing an internal action.



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Discussion Question #1

This week's video focuses on four cases that demonstrate how whistleblowers are usually treated. Over the weeks ahead, we will be examining whistleblowing from a variety of perspectives.

- 4. Define the ethical duty of Loyalty.**
- 5. For each of the Whistleblower/target relationships identified in #3, does the whistleblower owe the target an ethical duty of loyalty? (The question is not whether there is a reason that an ethical duty of loyalty should be ignored, but whether the duty exists)**
- 6. Define the ethical duty of Confidentiality.**
- 7. For each of the Whistleblower/target relationships identified in #3, does the whistleblower owe the target an ethical duty of confidentiality? (The question is not whether there is a reason that an ethical duty of confidentiality should be ignored, but whether the duty exists)**

B	Steigerwald
D	Malone
F	



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Information About The Whistle Blowers and Their Duties of Loyalty and Confidentiality

Whistle Blower	Case	Target	Relationship	Loyalty	Confidentiality
Glen Plumlee	Alaska Pipeline	Alyeska (BP, Mobil, Exxon)	Employee	Yes	Yes
Chuck Hamel	Alaska Pipeline	Alyeska (BP, Mobil, Exxon)	Business Assoc	Yes	Yes
Dr. Boisjoly	Challenger	Morton Thiokol/NASA	Employee	Yes	Yes
Steven Agee	Challenger	Morton Thiokol/NASA	Consultant (Spy?)	Yes	Yes
Gordon Harris	Police Corruption	Queensland Police Dept.	Employee	Yes	Yes
Ed Bricker	Hanford Nuclear Waste	Federal Government (Owner)	Employee	Yes	Yes
Inez Austin	Hanford Nuclear Waste	Federal Government (Owner)	Employee	Yes	Yes



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #1

Define the Duty of Loyalty in a business context.



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Discussion Question #1

Define the Duty of Loyalty in a business context.

Duty of Loyalty: Employers and Clients expect an employee's or consultant's loyalty, in that an employee or consultant should always act in the best interests of their employer or client. (DOES NOT MEAN STAYING IN THE EMPLOYMENT FOREVER!)

Define the Duty of Confidentiality in a business context.



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #1

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Define the Duty of Confidentiality in a business context.

Duty of Confidentiality: Employers and Clients expect that employees and consultants will keep company information and trade secrets confidential.

Who must control the right to maintain confidentiality?



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Discussion Question #1

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Duty of Confidentiality: Employers and Clients expect that employees and consultants will keep company information and trade secrets confidential.

Who must control the right to maintain confidentiality?

The owner of the confidential information.

Are loyalty and confidentiality ethical duties?



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Define the Duty of Loyalty in a business context.

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Define the Duty of Confidentiality in a business context.

Duty of Confidentiality: Employers and Clients expect that employees and consultants will keep company information and trade secrets confidential.

Who must control the right to maintain confidentiality?

The owner of the confidential information.

Are loyalty and confidentiality ethical duties?

Yes, they fall under the core ethical value of Trustworthiness.

There will be more on these ethical duties in the weeks ahead.?



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #1

Loyalty is a difficult concept to grasp and is neither absolute nor without limitations.

If you owe loyalty to your employer, does that duty end when the employment ends?

Confidentiality is more definitive in its meaning and application.

If you possess your employer's or client's private information, you owe confidentiality to your employer or client until you obtain their permission to disclose it.

Does this duty end when the employment ends?

More information about Loyalty:

- <https://teambuilding.com/blog/employee-loyalty>
- <https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidsturt/2019/01/10/the-truth-about-employee-loyalty-and-5-things-every-leader-should-know/?sh=3b532f88482c>
- <https://openstax.org/books/business-ethics/pages/7-1-loyalty-to-the-company>
- <https://www.abacademies.org/articles/the-duty-of-loyalty-in-the-employment-relationship-legal-analysis-and-recommendations-for-employers-and-workers-1544-0044-21-3-136.pdf>



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #1

Who is your Subordinate?



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #1

Who is your Subordinate? **Someone who answers to you.**

Why would someone find a need to blow the whistle on a subordinate?



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #1

Who is your Subordinate? Someone who answers to you.

Why would someone find a need to blow the whistle on a subordinate?

They wouldn't and shouldn't because:

- The superior is responsible for the actions of a subordinate, and
- The superior has the authority and responsibility to fix it, if it is wrongful.

If a person possesses information of activity causing public harm, but obtained the information independently of any confidentiality-based relationship, is that person a whistle blower if he/she discloses the information to the public?



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #1

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If a person possesses information of activity causing public harm, but obtained the information independently of any confidentiality-based relationship, is that person a whistle blower if he/she discloses the information to the public?

- Regardless of the source's source, the recipient of the information is not the whistle blower if he/she discloses it. The source may be a whistleblower.



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #1

Who is your Subordinate? Someone who answers to you.

Why would someone find a need to blow the whistle on a subordinate?

They wouldn't and shouldn't because:

- The superior is responsible for the actions of a subordinate, and
- The superior has the authority and responsibility to fix it, if it is wrongful.

If a person possesses information of activity causing public harm, but obtained the information independently of any confidentiality-based relationship, is that person a whistle blower if he/she discloses the information to the public?

- Regardless of the source's source, the recipient of the information is not the whistle blower if he/she discloses it. The source may be a whistleblower.
- **Consider reporters who get confidential information from an anonymous source and disclose the confidential information to the public.**
 - The anonymous source may be a whistle blower, especially if the anonymous source violated confidentiality duties by disclosing the confidential information to the reporter, thus becoming a whistleblower
 - The reporter is not a whistle blower because the reporter does not violate any duty of confidentiality in disclosing the information to the public.



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #2

The video, "Nice Guys Finish Last," identified several whistleblowers involved in high-profile whistleblowing cases. Overall, these whistleblowing cases identify at least three (3) "lessons":

The Target retaliates by trying to destroy the whistleblower.

The whistleblower lives in fear with no place to go

Nothing of substance happens to the target

- a) Cite specific examples from at least 2 of the cases in "Nice Guys Finish Last" that support the lesson that a target tries to destroy the whistleblower with retaliations
- b) Cite specific examples from at least 2 of the cases in "Nice Guys Finish Last" that support the lesson that a whistleblower lives in fear with no place to go.
- c) Cite specific examples from at least 2 of the cases in "Nice Guys Finish Last" that support the lesson that nothing of substance happens to the target.
- d) In 2 to 3 sentences, cite and explain at least one additional "lesson" you take away from the cases featured in this week's video "Nice Guys Finish Last?"

A

Shuman

C

Hornbeck

E

Graham



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #2

“... whistle blowing is not the way to go unless you are willing to give up everything and leave the country.” Prior CE 401 Student

This is why De George prefers to set a higher bar before imposing a moral duty on another person to blow the whistle



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #2

***“... a moral obligation to blow the whistle is sometimes not enough to justify the action.”
Ms. Bruser this semester***

Bouville’s abstract says, “... whistleblowers should strive to act like saints. Yet, it is logically impossible to hold both whistleblowing as mandatory and whistleblowers as heroes or saints.”

Is it possible that a whistle-blowing action is a matter of personal choice rather than moral duty?



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #2

Whistle blowing decisions are incredibly complicated.

- ***Do you lean toward De George (and James) that a person may have a moral duty to blow the whistle, or***
- ***Do you lean toward Bouville that whistle blowing cannot be a matter of moral duty and remains a matter of personal choice?***



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Introduction & Incident At Morales

Discussion Question #3

De George has identified five (5) criteria to guide a Whistleblower's decision-making. According to De George, the satisfaction of these criteria place the decision into one of three levels of MORAL AUTHORITY to blow the whistle:

- The Whistleblower has NO MORAL AUTHORITY to Blow the Whistle;
- The Whistleblower has MORAL PERMISSION to Blow the Whistle, but the Whistle Blower has NO MORAL DUTY to do so; or
- The Whistleblower has a MORAL DUTY to Blow the Whistle.

a) What are De George's five criteria, numbered as De George presents them?

b) What default level of MORAL AUTHORITY does De George's assign to a potential whistleblower prior to analyzing the decision, and in 2 to 3 sentences, explain why De George adopts this level of MORAL AUTHORITY as the default starting position?

c) Citing the appropriate De George criteria by number, identify which of the De George criteria a potential whistleblower should satisfy to gain MORAL PERMISSION to blow the whistle.

B

Ehram

D

Vargas

E

Casolare



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #3

- 1. When a person has moral authority but no moral duty to blow the whistle in a situation that may pose serious public harm, how does a person decide whether to remain quiet or speak?**



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #3

1. When a person has moral authority but no moral duty to blow the whistle in a situation that may pose serious public harm, how does a person decide whether to remain quiet or speak?
2. **At this point, the decision is whether to blow the whistle or walk away. Would you need to suspect, to believe, or to know before you make your final decision?**

How Strong Is Your Certainty?



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Discussion Question #1

A person who is considering a whistle blowing action should carefully evaluate the entire situation to determine whether whistle blowing is proper and necessary.



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Whistleblowing Actions

Continuum of Propriety of Whistleblowing (WB)
Based on the Facts and Circumstances

<u>No Moral Authority to Act</u>	<u>[] Moral Authority To Act</u>	<u>[] Duty to Act</u>
WB Is Not Proper	WB May or May Not Occur	WB is Necessary
Based On the Whistle Blower's Judgement		

Prospective Whistle blowers should evaluate the propriety of a potential whistle blowing action:

- 1. From No Moral Authority to Moral Authority but no Moral Duty, and**
- 2. From a Moral Authority with no Moral Duty to a Moral Duty.**
- 3. There is no need to consider a Moral Duty if Moral Authority is absent**



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Nice Guys Finish Last

Whistleblowing Actions

Moral Duty to Blow the Whistle

Satisfies All Five De George Criteria



The murky middle
where decisions are not clear cut
with Moral Authority to act BUT
No Moral Duty to Act.



No Moral Authority to Blow the Whistle

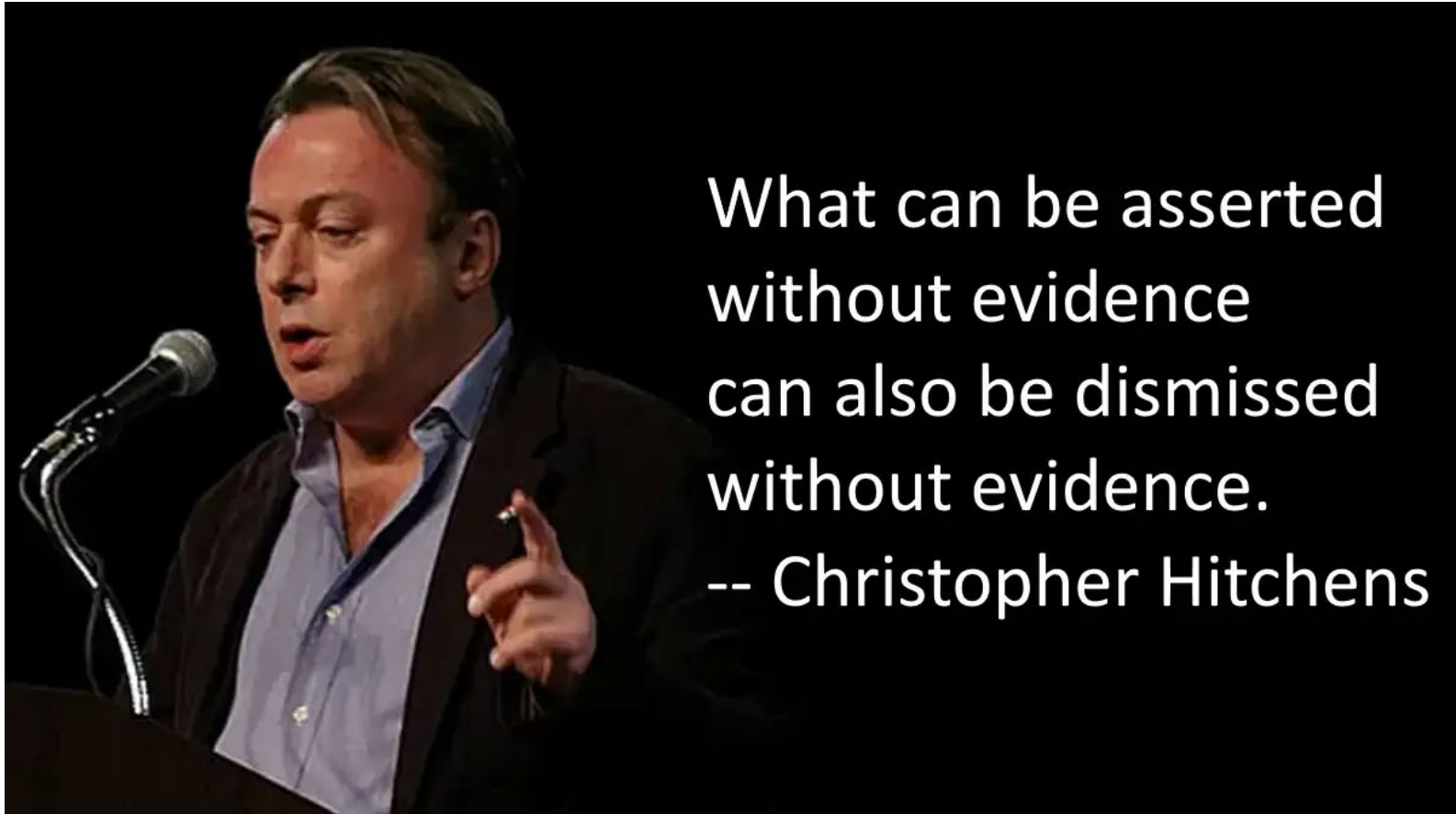
Cannot Satisfy the First Three De George Criteria



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HITCHENS' RAZOR!!!!



What can be asserted
without evidence
can also be dismissed
without evidence.
-- Christopher Hitchens

<https://ozgurnevres.com/hitchens-razor-evidence/>



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Discussion Question #4





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Introduction & Incident At Morales

Discussion Question #4

De George has identified five (5) criteria to guide a Whistleblower's decision-making. According to De George, the satisfaction of these criteria place the decision into one of three levels of MORAL AUTHORITY to blow the whistle:

- The Whistleblower has NO MORAL AUTHORITY to Blow the Whistle;
 - The Whistleblower has MORAL PERMISSION to Blow the Whistle, but the Whistle Blower has NO MORAL DUTY to do so; or
 - The Whistleblower has a MORAL DUTY to Blow the Whistle.
- a) What are De George's five criteria, numbered as De George presents them?
- b) What level of MORAL AUTHORITY does De George consider necessary before a potential whistleblower should consider whether there is a MORAL DUTY to blow the whistle, and in 2 to 3 sentences, explain why De George requires this level of MORAL AUTHORITY as a condition precedent to considering whether a MORAL DUTY exists?
- c) Citing the appropriate De George criteria by number, identify which of the De George criteria a potential whistleblower should satisfy to gain a MORAL DUTY to blow the whistle.

A

Holliday

C

DeYoung

F



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Discussion Question #4

1. Why does De George require objective documentation sufficient to convince an impartial third party about the public harm to create a moral duty?



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Discussion Question #4

1. Why does De George require objective documentation sufficient to convince an impartial third party about the public harm to create a moral duty?
2. When a person satisfies the first 4 De George criteria but concludes that the public harm will not be avoided by blowing the whistle, De George concludes that whistle blowing does NOT rise to a moral duty. Is De George giving a potential whistle blower an easy out?



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Discussion Question #4

1. Why does De George require objective documentation sufficient to convince an impartial third party about the public harm to create a moral duty?
2. When a person satisfies the first 4 De George criteria but concludes that the public harm will not be avoided by blowing the whistle, De George concludes that whistle blowing does NOT rise to a moral duty. Is De George giving a potential whistle blower an easy out?
3. **Consider the total harm that occurs if:**
 1. **The Whistle Blowing Action is likely to avoid the considerable public harm but the whistle blower's life is severely damaged, vs.**
 2. **The Whistle Blowing Action is likely to cause the whistle blower's life considerable damage, but the considerable public harm still occurs**



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Discussion Question #4

1. Why does De George require objective documentation sufficient to convince an impartial third party about the public harm to create a moral duty?
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**WHICH OF THESE TWO ALTERNATIVE CAUSES
THE GREATEST TOTAL HARM?**



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Discussion Questions #3 and #4

In deciding whether to act or not act, a potential whistleblower should answer two questions.

- 1 Do I have moral authority to act?**
- 2 Do I have a moral duty to act?**

Neither De George nor James formulated these questions, but each of them provides their views about how a person should answer them.

Regardless of the system or criteria a person chooses to use to decide what to do, prospective whistle blowers must answer these questions.



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Discussion Question #5 (See Page 42 of TEXT)

The text points out that Dr. Mintz asserts that company policies mandating “internal whistleblowing” shift responsibility for misdeeds “from the organization to the individual” by making internal reporting an employee duty. In contrast, De George clearly requires “internal whistleblowing” before a potential whistleblower gains moral authority to proceed with “external whistleblowing.” While this may appear to be a conflict about the propriety of internal whistleblowing, it really is not. “Moral autonomy” is the capacity to impose objective moral standards on oneself. As Michael Josephson points out, the core ethical values are these objective moral standards of conduct that apply universally to each person. For this reason, Mintz’s comments about shifting responsibility for wrongdoing are really about personal and corporate responsibility and accountability rather than “moral autonomy.”

1. In 2 or 3 sentences, explain why De George's requirement that a Whistleblower exhaust internal channels before gaining MORAL PERMISSION for an external whistleblowing action is beneficial to the Whistleblower.
2. In 2 or 3 sentences, explain why De George's requirement that a Whistleblower exhaust internal channels before gaining MORAL PERMISSION for an external whistleblowing action is beneficial to the target.

B

C

E

Little

Smith

Leach



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Moral Autonomy

- 1. Does Moral Autonomy allow an individual to decide what the core ethical values/standards are? Why?**



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Moral Autonomy

1. Does Moral Autonomy allow an individual to decide what the core ethical values/standards are? Why?
2. **Who can the De George “exhaustion” requirement protect?**



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Moral Autonomy

1. Does Moral Autonomy allow an individual to decide what the core ethical values/standards are? Why?
2. **Who can the De George “exhaustion” requirement protect?**
 1. **The employee accused of improper conduct?**



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Moral Autonomy

1. Does Moral Autonomy allow an individual to decide what the core ethical values/standards are? Why?
2. **Who can the De George “exhaustion” requirement protect?**
 1. **The employee accused of improper conduct?**
 2. **The company?**



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Moral Autonomy

1. Does Moral Autonomy allow an individual to decide what the core ethical values/standards are? Why?
2. **Who can the De George “exhaustion” requirement protect?**
 1. **The employee accused of improper conduct?**
 2. **The company?**
 3. **The potential whistle blower?**



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Moral Autonomy

1. Does Moral Autonomy allow an individual to decide what the core ethical values/standards are? Why?
2. **Who can the De George “exhaustion” requirement protect?**
 1. The employee accused of improper conduct?
 2. The company?
 3. The potential whistle blower?
3. **When an engineer faces a Code Section 10 reporting situation, does that mean that the first 3 De George criteria are no longer important? What about documentation, and #5 “Min. harm/Max good”**



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Discussion Question #5

- 1. How does the whistle blower's target respond to the whistle blower?**



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Discussion Question #5

1. How does the whistle blower's target respond to the whistle blower?
2. **What happens to the GOOD GUYS, the whistle blowers?**



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Discussion Question #5

1. How does the whistle blower's target respond to the whistle blower?
2. What happens to the GOOD GUYS, the whistle blowers?
3. **What happens to the BAD GUYS, the target?**



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Discussion Question #5

- 1. Is a prospective whistle blower always right about the public hazard posed by the target's activities?**



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Discussion Question #5

1. Is a prospective whistle blower always right about the public hazard posed by the target's activities? **No.**
2. If the prospective whistle blower is not right, and goes public anyway, what happens to him and his target?



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Discussion Question #5

1. Is a prospective whistle blower always right about the public hazard posed by the target's activities? **No.**
2. If the prospective whistle blower is not right, and goes public anyway, what happens to him and his target? **Whistle Blower suffers retribution, and the Target Explains away the false allegations**
3. Is the Target's management always aware of activities within its organization that pose a public hazard?



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Discussion Question #5

1. Is a prospective whistle blower always right about the public hazard posed by the target's activities? **No.**
2. If the prospective whistle blower is not right, and goes public anyway, what happens to him and his target? **Whistle Blower suffers retribution, and the Target Explains away the false allegations**
3. Is the Target's management always aware of activities within its organization that pose a public hazard? **No.**
4. If the Target's management becomes aware of activities that pose a public hazard, what can occur?



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Discussion Question #5

1. Is a prospective whistle blower always right about the public hazard posed by the target's activities? No.
2. If the prospective whistle blower is not right, and goes public anyway, what happens to him and his target? Whistle Blower suffers retribution, and the Target Explains away the false allegations
3. Is the Target's management always aware of activities within its organization that pose a public hazard? No.
4. If the Target's management becomes aware of activities that pose a public hazard, what can occur?
 - a) The Target can correct the problem internally without public embarrassment, or
 - b) The Target will ignore the issue, in which case the prospective whistle blower's justification for going public is stronger.



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Discussion Question #6

Engineering Codes of Ethics require an engineer to report wrongdoing by another engineer. For example, Section 10 of the Kentucky code is particularly relevant in saying, “If an engineer knows or has reason to believe (Emphasis Added) that any person is in violation of Chapter 322 (Engineering Registration Act) or any regulation, he shall present that information to the Board in writing and shall cooperate with the Board in furnishing information.”

In contrast, Malek observes, “The Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy notes that, ‘Self-regulation ensures that decisions about professional conduct will be made by experienced and qualified peers. But for self-regulation to work, researchers must be willing to alert others when they suspect (Emphasis Added) that a colleague has violated professional standards or disciplinary practices’.”

In broad terms, it seems clear that when society entrusts a profession with the privilege of setting and enforcing its own standards, members of the profession have a duty to report wrongdoing committed by members of the profession. The issue hinges on the level of knowledge or certainty of the wrongdoing an engineer should have before the duty to report (blow the whistle) becomes operative.

- Define suspicion, reasonable belief, and knowledge, and then Compare and Contrast the level of certainty you associate with each.
- Choosing between suspicion, reasonable belief, and knowledge, which level of certainty about your alleged wrongdoing should another engineer have before reporting you to the Board of Registration?

DO NOT READ AND ANSWER PART c) UNTIL YOU HAVE ANSWERED PART b), AND DO NOT RETURN TO PART b) AFTER CONSIDERING PART c)

A	Stone
D	Hawkins
F	



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Discussion Question #6

A person who is considering a whistle blowing action should carefully evaluate the entire situation to determine whether whistle blowing is proper.

1. Is believing something is true the same as suspecting it is true?



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Discussion Question #6

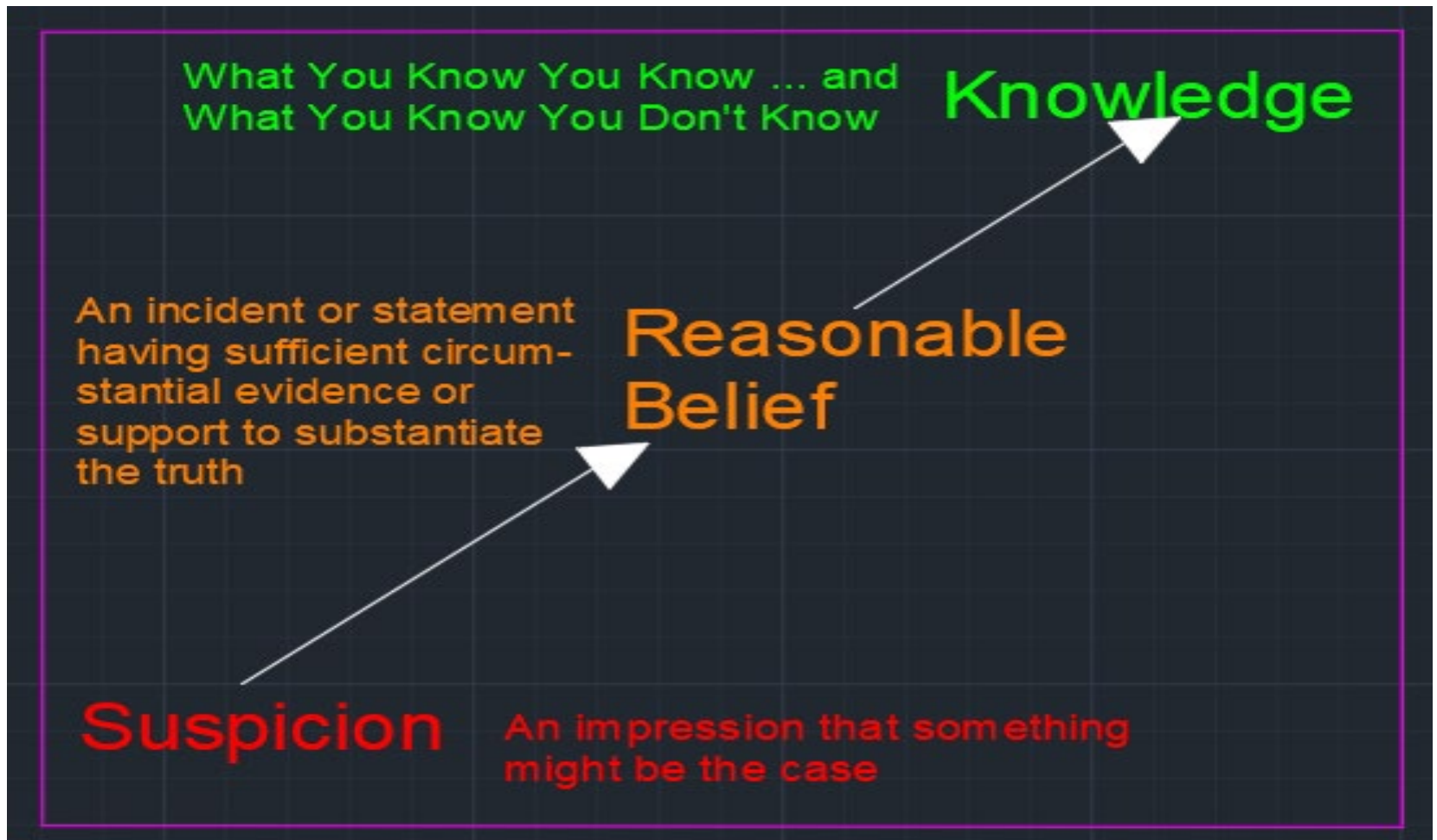
A person who is considering a whistle blowing action should carefully evaluate the entire situation to determine whether whistle blowing is proper.

1. Is believing something is true the same as suspecting it is true?
2. Is believing something is true the same as knowing it is true?



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In broad terms, it seems clear that when society entrusts a profession with the privilege of setting and enforcing its own standards, members of the profession have a duty to report wrongdoing committed by members of the profession. The issue hinges on the level of knowledge or certainty of the wrongdoing an engineer should have before the duty to report (blow the whistle) becomes operative.

DO NOT READ AND ANSWER PART c) UNTIL YOU HAVE ANSWERED PART b), AND DO NOT RETURN TO PART b) AFTER CONSIDERING PART c)

c) Choosing between suspicion, reasonable belief, and knowledge, which level of certainty about an engineer's wrongdoing does the Kentucky Board of Registration require before a Kentucky engineer has an ethical duty to report that other engineer to the Board for investigation?

A
D
F

Stone
Hawkins



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Discussion Question #6

- 1. Who does the Code's ethical mandate to report violations of law or ethics to the Board of Registration protect?**



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Discussion Question #6

1. Who does the Code's ethical mandate to report violations of law or ethics to the Board of Registration protect?
2. **Assume an engineer knows a breach of duty has occurred by another engineer that could result in loss of life if not corrected but the engineer DOES NOT REPORT IT TO THE BOARD AS REQUIRED. If a failure then occurs and people die, does this silent engineer share responsibility for the wrongful deaths in addition to the violation of this code provision?**



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Discussion Question #6

1. Who does the Code's ethical mandate to report violations of law or ethics to the Board of Registration protect?
2. Assume an engineer knows a breach of duty has occurred by another engineer that could result in loss of life if not corrected but the engineer DOES NOT REPORT IT TO THE BOARD AS REQUIRED. If a failure then occurs and people die, does this silent engineer share responsibility for the wrongful deaths in addition to the violation of this code provision?
3. **Is this responsibility ethical, legal, or both?**



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Discussion Question #6

The Code of Ethics for Professional Engineers, whether promulgated by ASCE, NSPE or a State Board of Registration mandates reporting another engineer, known to have violated the law. Here is what the Code of Ethics for Engineers registered in Kentucky says:

<http://www.lrc.state.ky.us/kar/201/018/142.htm>

- **Section 2:** The Engineer shall ... protect the public H, S, & W
- **Section 10:** If an engineer knows or reason to believe that any person is in violation of Chapter 322 or any regulation, he shall present that information to the Board in writing and shall cooperate with the Board in furnishing information.

Doesn't this ethical provision require an engineer to become a whistle blower when that engineer has either knowledge or a reason to believe that another engineer has violated the law or the ethical requirements of an engineer?

- 'Knowledge' means "What You Know You Know — and Don't Know."
- 'Reason to believe' means' an incident or statement having sufficient circumstantial evidence or support to substantiate the truth.
- 'Suspicion' means an impression that something might be the case.
- <https://www.giffordlectures.org/books/belief/lecture-3-belief-and-knowledge>



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Major Considerations of Whistle Blowing

A person who is considering a whistle blowing action should carefully evaluate the entire situation to determine whether whistle blowing is proper and necessary.

It is often a life changing decision

- Sometimes a person has a moral duty to fall on his sword and act**
- Sometimes a person has no moral authority to act, and falling on his sword is career ending without achieving anything important for the public or the person.**
- Sometimes a person may have moral authority to act, but no moral duty to do so. This is when the person must be most careful in making this life changing decision.**



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Major Considerations of Whistle Blowing

In deciding whether to act or not act, a potential whistleblower should answer two questions.

- 1 Do I have moral authority to act?**
- 2 Do I have a moral duty to act?**

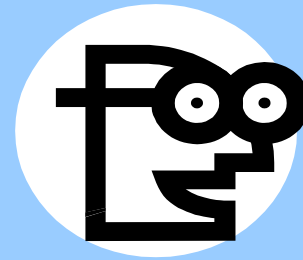
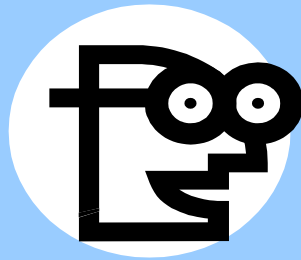
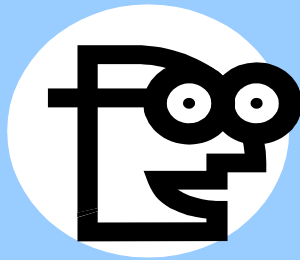
De George did not formulate these questions, but De George provides one system to help a person answer them.

Regardless of the system a person chooses to answer these questions, prospective whistle blowers must answer these questions.



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Nice Guys Finish Last:



It's QUESTION TIME !!