

Personal Code of Ethics

With only twenty two years of life experience under my belt I feel I have a mature, developed, unique understanding of the world, life, and the parts and pieces that fill our lives and our world. Unlike some, I truly enjoy hearing from people; listening to stories from their past, their thoughts and ideas, and experiences they believe to be worth sharing. Growing up, people, including my family, coined me as the “shy kid.” It didn’t ever bother me though because I knew I wasn’t scared to talk, I just wanted to soak it all in and enjoy the moment; to hear what others had to say was key in my efforts to contribute to conversations. There are many people in my life that I consider family, people that, although may not share any blood with me, have been by my side for over sixteen years. Although I’m not completely certain, I think I have a good idea why this is the case. My own personal ethics should not seem surprising given what I just told you about myself. I think, oftentimes, people have more to say than they appear to outsiders. Creating an open and inclusive environment works to get it all out of people, both good and bad at times, and contributes to a workplace that has a better understanding of the people within it. A concept of open expression is entirely tied to liberty; creative freedom, social freedom, and freedom to carry on your day as you feel necessary. Of course, needless to say this must remain free of any harm, prejudice, or attack on others. This, among many other things, are all very important to me. Stealing, deceiving, and manipulating are all things that create unneeded and unwanted tension. I think a tool that is useful, when one considers stealing, deceiving, or manipulating, is to

ask themselves “Is this my price?” Am I willing to risk my livelihood, the livelihood of others, and the reputation of myself and those connected to me? It seems redundant, but when you sincerely ask yourself those questions, the answers seem to tell you all you need to know. Whether subconscious or not, ethical standards have a huge role in the decisions we make. It becomes apparent, after decisions are made, where someone's ethical standards lie. Learning and listening are two aspects of life that are eternally bound; these aspects help us understand the world and the people around us. Listening to someone helps you learn about them. For me, this is a key step in leading an ethical life. By hearing from them you might grow to enjoy them, and even if that is not necessarily the case, you will at least be able to see them on an equal playing field. This playing field is one that all humans play on, they share the field but they play on their own individual wavelength. Sometimes when you're on the field you might notice someone playing a way that you never imagined, a way that you think could be helpful to you and others, and other times you may notice a certain style of play that you recognize as unworthy, morally mute, a style that you vow to refrain from.