

Writing Your Moral Code

Creating and sticking to a moral code may not get you the dream job or a higher paycheck, but it may help you sleep better at night. Yet consistently demonstrating this moral code just might help you get a job, keep a job, and get promoted. Ultimately, personal and professional integrity helps you to gain the respect, trust, and confidence of others. But it all starts within you. If you don't truly value integrity, respect, trust in yourself, you will never find it in or receive it from others.

Please write briefly under each of the following topics that provides an example of the scenario or bad behavior, express what you would do in this situation, and then explain the personal and/or professional benefits of preserving your integrity and consequences of doing the opposite of the bad behavior.

Hint: It helps if you have in mind your potential job situation.

Example:

1. Cheating

I work in Human Resources

Scenario: After an on-the-job training, I am taking a quiz to test how much I have learned and a coworker has finished early and wants to give me his answers.

What I would do: I would refuse the help and finish on my own.

Benefits: If I took help from my coworker, I could finish early and increase the odds of doing well.

Consequences of doing the opposite: If I took help, my supervisors would not understand how much I knew or how effective the training was. I might endanger others by passing a test I shouldn't have. I might not do better on the test because my coworker might have a false sense of confidence. I would also compromise my integrity and honesty by taking help. Even if no one else knew, my coworker would know and that could haunt me throughout my career. Also, I would know, and my self-esteem would be negatively affected.

2. Lying to your supervisor

Scenario:

What I would do:

Benefits:

Consequences of doing the opposite:

3. Stealing

Scenario:

What I would do:

Benefits:

Consequences of doing the opposite:

4. Using work time for personal reasons

Scenario:

What I would do:

Benefits:

Consequences of doing the opposite:

5. Gossiping

Scenario:

What I would do:

Benefits:

Consequences of doing the opposite:

6. Neglecting your responsibility

Scenario:

What I would do:

Benefits:

Consequences of doing the opposite:

7. Refusing to work with someone else or to serve a customer

Scenario:

What I would do:

Benefits:

Consequences of doing the opposite:

8. Leaving work early or for personal reasons

Scenario:

What I would do:

Benefits:

Consequences of doing the opposite:

9. Disobeying your supervisor or company policies

Scenario:

What I would do:

Benefits:

Consequences of doing the opposite:

10. Someone has left his/her cell phone in the bathroom.

Scenario:

What I would do:

Benefits:

Consequences of doing the opposite:

11. You have made a bad mistake at work that might get you fired, but no one knows about it.

Scenario:

What I would do:

Benefits:

Consequences of doing the opposite: