Ethics and Law - Chapter 1

COURSE: ETHICS & DECISION MAKING

You are exiting the grocery store, in a rush with the snacks you need for your house party, and it is pouring rain!

You see that a man has just parked in the only handicapped parking spot and RUN into the grocery store.

What are the legal and ethical issues? What would you do about the situation?

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You see that a man has just parked in the only handicapped parking spot and RUN into the grocery store.

A van has just pulled up to the (occupied) handicapped spot, and moved on to another spot farther away. You see a woman get out of the car and slowly make her way through the rain on her

crutches.

What would you do about the situation?

DO NOW:

1.Chris is a homeless person who lives on the streets of Manhattan. One night Chris is hungry, and attempts to steal a couple of donuts from a street vendor. Chris defends the theft to the police officer by claming he is hungry and in need of a basic necessity (food) and will use it for nourishment... while the street vendor will only sell it to make a profit (and possibly throw it out if it is not sold).

What do you think about Chris's thoughts and the law?







- Your car is moving at 35mph.
- Two laned road.
- Rainy and foggy conditions.
- Oncoming car is moving at 35mph.
- Row of trees to right of road.
- Dog is <u>limping</u> in an attempt to run across the road.

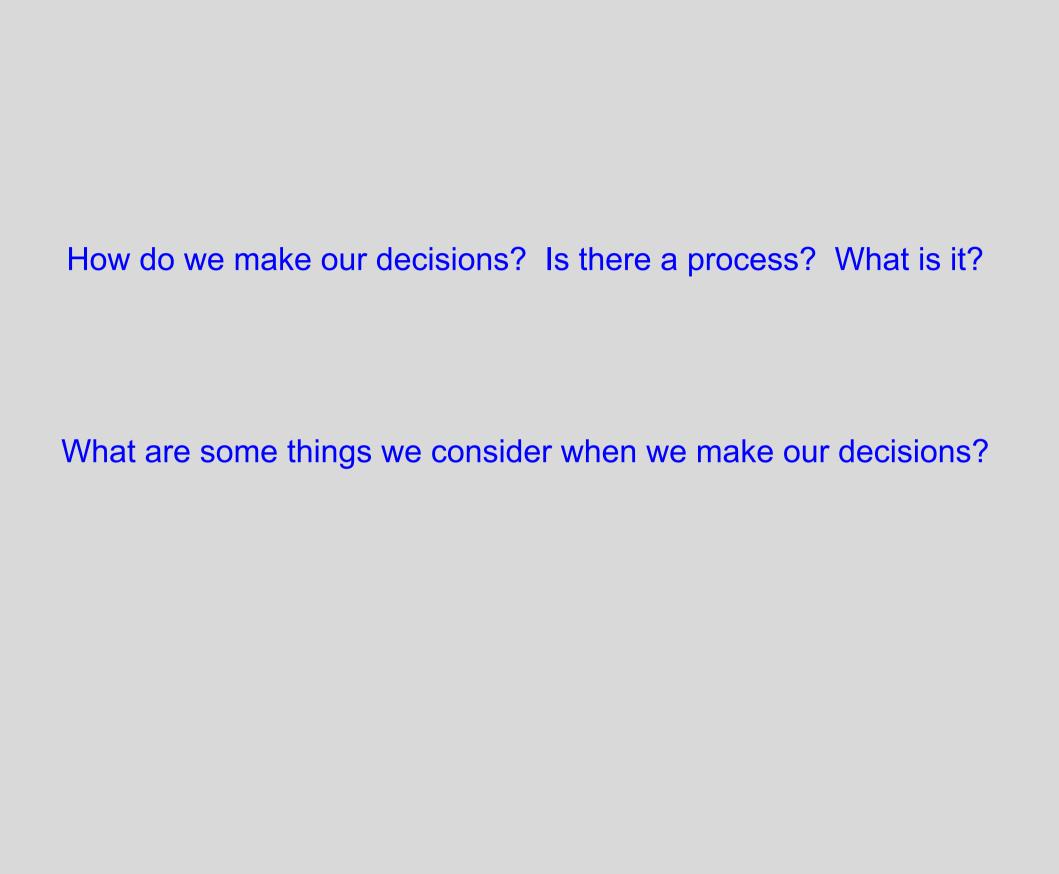
As the driver, what do you do?.... why?

DO NOW:

Anka does not have the admission fee to get into the movie theater. She convinces her friend, Steven, to let her in the exit door of the theater after he pays for his ticket.

She defends her actions by saying that the loss to the theater is "intangible" because no one was hurt and because she did not really take anything of value "because it does not cost them any extra for me to see the movie". She also says that she doesn't have as much money as the owners of the theater - and they are being greedy.

What is the conflict between Anna's thoughts and the law?



WHO WOULD YOU SAVE?







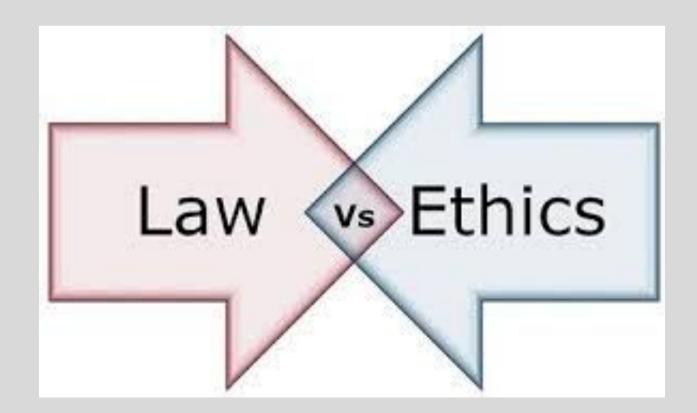
If only one group could be protected, who should it be? And why?

Morality - involves the values that govern a society's attitude/distinction between right and wrong.

(Something like a rule book.)

(Like laws?)

Ethics - moral and values that govern behaviors. (How do we interpret the rules?)



Stealing from a store... Ethical?





There are three generalizations for how to make ethical decisions: Ethical decisions are based on...

- 1. feelings and opinions.
- 2. the greatest good for the greatest number of people affected by an action.
- 3. the Golden Rule--
- "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."
- * This requires empathy



Write down a law that exists (in school, life, etc) that we do not need. Explain why.

Write down a law that does NOT exist (in school, life, etc) that we DO need.

Explain Why.



Based on Survey Responses from 1,048 U.S. Citizens

4-Day Work Week



Overall, the majority of Americans (75%) want a 4-day work week to be law.

Working on Weekends



Overall, the majority of Americans (54%) want a law against working on the weekend.

Email Etiquette



Overall, the majority of Americans (79%) think using more than one exclamation point in an email should not be illegal.

The Relationship between Ethics and Law

Law - consists of rules of conduct established by the government of a society to maintain stability and justice in that society.

Should racism be against the law?



DeSantis signs bill banning protests outside any residence

By Steve Contorno, CNN
Published 12:17 PM EDT, Tue May 17, 2022





E CON politics SCOTUS Congress Facts First 2024 Elections

(CNN) — Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis signed a bill Monday that makes it illegal to protest or picket outside a person's home and gives police the authority to arrest violators who don't disperse after a warning.

"Sending unruly mobs to private residences, like we have seen with the angry crowds in front of the homes of Supreme Court justices, is inappropriate," DeSantis said in a statement. "This bill will provide protection to those living in residential communities, and I am glad to sign it into law."

In his statement, DeSantis was referencing protests earlier this month outside the Washington, DC-area homes of US Supreme Court justices ahead of a highly anticipated ruling on an abortion-related case. Republicans have criticized the demonstrations as an attempt to bully the court to uphold Roe v. Wade after a Leaked draft ruling suggested the court was poised to overturn the landmark decision.

However, the bill that DeSantis signed was unrelated to the recent controversy, as it passed the state legislature in early March. The bill had bipartisan support in the Florida Senate, where it advanced to DeSantis' desk after a 28-3 vote.

State Sen. Keith Perry, the Republican lawmaker who sponsored the bill, said the legislation was inspired by prior instances of protesters gathering near the homes of both liberal and conservative figures. One example he cited was the harassment of a Broward County school board member outside her home in opposition to school masking requirements. The school board member, Jennifer D. Jenkins, wrote in an oped for The Washington Post that the protesters heckled her kids, coughed in her face while shouting, "Give her Covid," and burned an obscenity into her lawn with weed killer.

A bill analysis also referenced protests outside the Florida homes of US Sens. Marco Rubio and Rick Scott and the parents of murder suspect Brian Laundrie, as well as incidents outside the state, like the demonstrators who showed up at the residences of the Chicago and Portland mayors and a home owned by the Minneapolis police officer who killed George Floyd











May 23, 2018

POLITICS

NFL bans on-field kneeling during the national anthem

PUBLISHED WED, MAY 23 2018-1:00 PM EDT | UPDATED WED, MAY 23 2018-2:10 PM EDT













- The National Football League changed its policy Wednesday to require league personnel to stand for the national anthem.
- Players must stand "and show respect for the flag" if they are on the field.
- If they refuse to stand for the anthem on the field, their team will be fined.



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The NFL commissioner Roger Goodell said late on Friday (7-5-2020) that the league's earlier ban on players taking the knee had been mistaken. "We were wrong for not listening to NFL players earlier, and encourage all to speak out and peacefully protest," Goodell said.



New bill would add mandatory age verification to social networks



/ The 'Protecting Kids on Social Media Act' would require a sweeping reevaluation of how adults and children operate online.

By Jay Peters, a news editor who writes about technology, video games, and virtual worlds. He's submitted several accepted emoji proposals to the Unicode

Apr 26, 2023, 2:56 PM EDT | 4 Comments / 4 New





Photo by Amelia Holowaty Krales / The Verge

A group of US senators has revealed a bipartisan bill that would require social media platforms to verify users' ages, stop anyone under 13 years of age from signing up, and set up special rules for minors over 13. It would also require the government to test out a voluntary nationwide verification system that would use official records and IDs to check people's ages online.

The bill, the "Protecting Kids on Social Media Act," was introduced by Senators Tom Cotton (R-AR), Brian Schatz (D-HI), Chris Murphy (D-CT), and Katie Britt (R-AL) on Wednesday. It's designed to protect younger users from things like social media addiction, but it would also require a sweeping reevaluation of how adults and children operate online.

Why are laws necessary?

needed because people do not always do what they ought to do.

Laws may not *force* people to do what is right, but has the power to punish

A law can not FORCE you to wear your seatbelt. But it can punish you if you do not wear your seatbelt.





Why are laws necessary?



Reuters

Business ∨ Markets ∨ Sustainability ∨ Leg

United States | Government | Civil Rights | Litigation | Public Policy

Ban on guns in post offices is unconstitutional, US judge rules

By Nate Raymond

January 16, 2024 12:16 PM EST · Updated 8 months ago



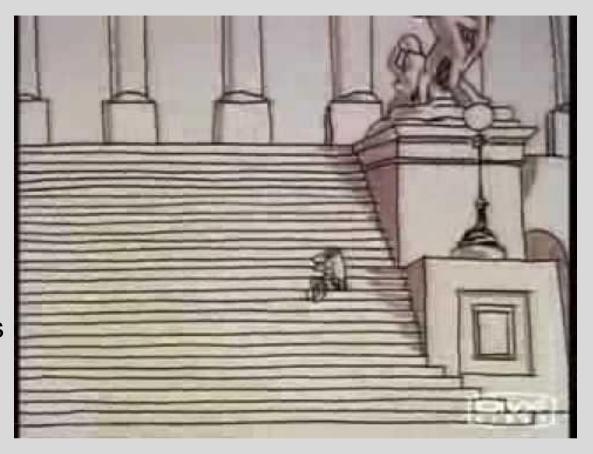


Statutory Law

Statutes are laws specifically passed by a governing body created for that purpose.

Federal statutes - are laws passed by the US Congress and signed by the President.

State statutes - Each state has its own legislature to pass laws must not conflict with the US Constitution.



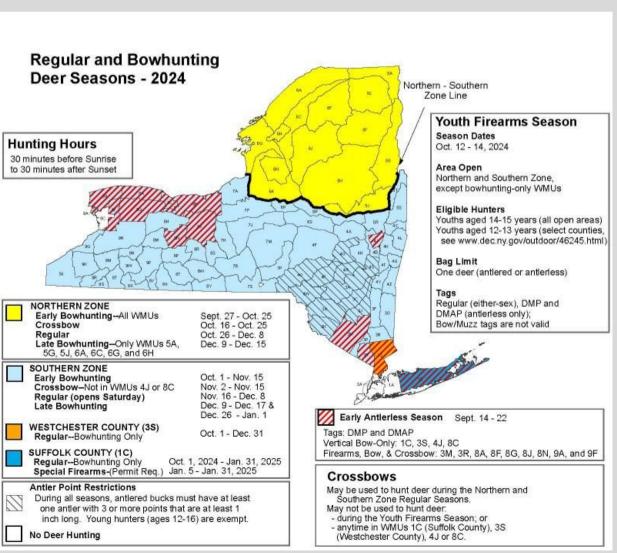
Administrative Regulations

A department of government is formed to administer a particular legislation.

Administrative law consists of those rules and procedures established by regulatory agencies. Can make, investigate, enforce and rule on the guilt or innocence of those who violate their rules



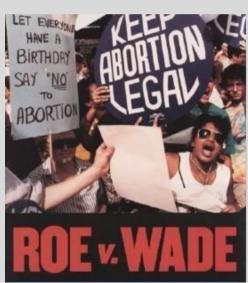




Court Decisions

- Court-made law, often called case law, is made through the common law tradition, by interpreting statutes, and by judicial review.
- If not altered by statute, these laws will continue to rule.
- If it violates the US Constitution, it can be declared unconstitutional--no longer valid.





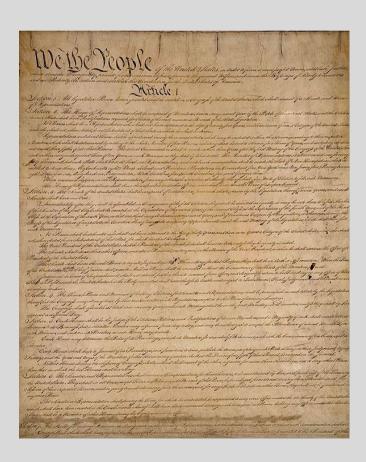
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Sources of Laws include:

Federal and State Constitutions

- o The constitution spells out the principles by which that country operates.
- o The US Constitution is the broad & basic foundation for the laws of the country.
- o Bill of Rights (they limit the power of government).
- o Each state has its own constitution--usually narrower, more protective, and more restrictive.



Common Law

States still have laws on their books that originated with the early English settlers

Justices traveled the country making decisions based on the customs and traditions of the people. This led to the idea of **precedent.**

Precedent -a judge is required to follow an earlier court decision when deciding a case with similar characteristics.

Woman faces Texas murder charge after self-induced abortion

Authorities say a 26-year-old woman has been charged with murder in Texas after causing "the death of an individual by self-induced abortion."

By KEN MILLER and HEATHER HOLLINGSWORTH Associated Press April 9, 2022, 4:38 PM ⇔ Share

RIO GRANDE CITY, Texas -- A 26-year-old woman has been charged with murder in Texas after authorities said she caused "the death of an individual by self-induced abortion," in a state that has the most restrictive abortion laws in the U.S.

It's unclear whether Lizelle Herrera is accused of having an abortion or whether she helped someone else get an abortion.

We have learned about ways that lawmakers create laws that we must follow...

How do you feel about it? Does it work for you?... for our society?



