

UGBA 170 Business Ethics for the 21st Century

WRITING ASSIGNMENT

CASE DISCUSSION

Using the cases (and relevant articles) you found the most interesting and/or useful, select and discuss at least four of the following interrelated issues, thus dividing the paper into four discrete sections. Please use at least one different case for each section. There is no need to restate all the facts of the case. Try to offer personal insight and creativity beyond what was discussed in class. Papers should be at least 2500 words in length (please show word-count). 2-sided printing is recommended.

1. Describe what more appropriate outcome, if any, you believe could have been achieved in the case, and explain through what means, actually available to the participants.
2. Inform the case and its issues with your direct personal and professional experience. Have you been confronted with “defining moments” relevant to the issues raised there? How did you resolve them?
3. Distinguish the proper roles of both *personal* and *corporate* responsibility involved. How do they differ; how do they individually need to be addressed in cases like this?
4. Identify what wisdom-limiting aspects of the evolutionary human mind were evoked in the participants by the facts of the case. What more expansive/developmental aspects of human potential might have been usefully drawn-upon?
5. Relate the case and its issues to your view of what duty, if any, an individual has to express his/her core values (not just opinions) in relationships, discussion, and action at work, especially as a manager of people and projects.
6. Explain why, in your opinion, making “correct” ethical decisions is, or is not, difficult, and view the case in light of your position.
7. Discuss whether, in your opinion, the case participants embraced the cosmogenetic possibilities open to them and creatively helped bring forth, among all available tendencies, a world that you respect and desire. Did the participants see the opportunity accompanying the danger in the crisis?
8. Explore the effect on the outcome of the case of cultivating a bigger-picture vision. Was any sense of balance attempted among desirable elements?
9. Discuss significant untapped possibilities for collective cosmogenetic action among individuals and/or companies, and how they could have benefited the result.
10. Discuss to what extent, if any, a regular practice of introspection/contemplation could have benefited the participants in finding their way through the challenges of the case. Could some core personal values have already been established and clarified? Could some destructive emotional flooding have been avoided?
11. Discuss how a better understanding of personality systems would have benefited the participants and the outcome.
12. In a climate of increasing globalization, where the largest corporations have budgets larger than all but the very largest countries, it can be argued that corporations are increasingly “ruling the world.” Is this a good thing? If not, what can you (and all of us) do about it?