

Online Test Bank
for

Ethics, Crime, and Criminal Justice

Second Edition

Christopher R. Williams
University of West Georgia

Bruce A. Arrigo
University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Prentice Hall

Boston Columbus Indianapolis New York San Francisco Upper Saddle River

Amsterdam Cape Town Dubai London Madrid Milan Munich Paris Montreal Toronto

Delhi Mexico City Sao Paulo Sydney Hong Kong Seoul Singapore Taipei Tokyo

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Prentice Hall
is an imprint of

ISBN-10: 0-13-507155-7

SBN-13: 978-0-13-507155-0

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Introduction

First, I would like to personally thank you for adopting *Ethics, Crime, and Criminal Justice* for your course needs. The material in the text is the end result of many years of thinking, teaching, and writing about ethical issues within the criminal justice system and without. Both Bruce and I are passionate about the subject of ethics and sincerely hope that passion comes through in the text.

The vast majority of questions contained in this bank are drawn from my own question bank which has been developed over many years of teaching courses on ethics and criminal justice. They are largely the same questions I have used with success in my own classes. The remaining questions were written specifically for the new edition of this bank. As I have personally written every question in this bank, I apologize in advance for any inconsistencies or other problems you may encounter. As always, I welcome and appreciate your feedback.

Secondly, I do not often write multiple questions addressing the same concept. For this reason, the bank has been put together so that, with only a couple of exceptions, every question can be utilized without the risk of redundancy. Also for this reason, you might find slightly fewer questions from which to choose than you may see in other, similar banks. Again, this is intentional. I strongly encourage you to alter the questions (or answers) as you see fit and as is necessary for consistency with your own lectures and course dynamics.

I have not included standard questions for Chapters 11 and 12, the contents of which differ meaningfully from that of the Chapters 1-10. I have found that instructors utilize these final two chapters in different ways. Some use Chapter 11, for instance, at the beginning of the course, others near the end, and still others choose to bypass it entirely. Both Chapters 11 and 12 are intended to be resources utilized at the discretion of individual instructors and, thus, not necessarily covered in class and incorporated into exams in the same manner as the first ten chapters.

The text of Chapter 12 – new to the 2nd edition – does contain questions intended to be used for classroom discussion or writing assignments (see pages 239-242), but could easily be adapted for inclusion as essay questions on a final exam. They are intended to pull together all of the material covered in Chapters 8, 9, and 10, and encourage students to apply normative frameworks to “real life” scenarios. Because of the way in which these questions were constructed, however, answers would vary tremendously from student to student. I encourage individual instructors to put some additional thought into whether and how these questions might be utilized for examination purposes and, further, the kinds of answers that could reasonably be expected from particular groupings of students.

Thank you again, and I sincerely hope that you find the text and the question bank to be of value.

Christopher R. Williams

CHAPTER 1

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND THE STUDY OF MORALITY

Chapter 1 Multiple Choice

1. Which of the following refers to the study of questions concerning right and wrong and how we ought to live our lives?
 - a. Morality
 - b. Ethics
 - c. Axiology
 - d. Practical philosophy

Answer: b

Page Number: 3

Level: Basic

2. The primary purpose of ethical inquiry is to:
 - a. find all the possible solutions to a problem.
 - b. critically reflect upon how we live and the choices we make.
 - c. learn about the philosophies of the past 2000 years.
 - d. memorize relevant codes of conduct.

Answer: b

Page Number: 7-8

Level: Intermediate

3. According to your text, morality involves living one's life:
 - a. self-consciously.
 - b. as the law states one should.
 - c. on pursuit of happiness at any cost.
 - d. according to previous personal experiences.

Answer: a

Page Number: 8

Level: Basic

4. Which of the following is discussed in your text as a reason that laws should be critically assessed rather than blindly accepted?
- a. Laws are fallible
 - b. Laws can be immoral
 - c. Laws are not inclusive of all moral concerns
 - d. All of the above

Answer: d

Page Number: 9-12

Level: Intermediate

5. The “spheres of criminal justice” include all of the following except:
- a. criminal justice practice.
 - b. judicial review.
 - c. social justice.
 - d. laws and lawmaking.

Answer: b

Page Number: 13-15

Level: Intermediate

6. Which of the following refers to a type or subfield of ethics which focuses on the application of ethical values, principles, obligations, etc., to particular issues and practical scenarios that emerge within the context of a given field or occupation?
- a. Personal
 - b. Normative
 - c. Religious
 - d. Professional

Answer: d

Page Number: 13

Level: Basic

7. Which of the following would be a concern of social justice?
- a. Health care
 - b. Employment
 - c. Education
 - d. All of the above

Answer: d

Page Number: 14-15

Level: Advanced

8. Codes of ethics are best understood as:
- a. general principles.
 - b. detailed solutions to ethical problems.
 - c. formal laws with prescribed punishments.
 - d. all of the above

Answer: a

Page Number: 20-21

Level: Intermediate

9. With regard to professional codes of ethics, the problem of enforcement suggests that:
- a. codes can sometimes be wrong.
 - b. codes can encourage employees to do only the minimum.
 - c. violations of ethical codes are not always detected and reported.
 - d. police and correctional officers may not believe that codes apply to them.

Answer: c

Page Number: 18-19

Level: Basic

10. Which of the following would be of greatest concern from an ethical standpoint?
- a. The number of homicide victims in a given place during a given time period
 - b. The legal elements of the crime of homicide
 - c. Whether capital punishment is a justifiable response to the crime of homicide
 - d. How class, race, and gender impact the decision-making of homicide offenders

Answer: c

Page Number: 4-5

Level: Advanced

11. The idea that, when rules or guidelines are in place to guide our behavior, we may be inclined to do only what is dictated by the rules and nothing more is referred to as:
- a. the externalization of codes.
 - b. minimalism.
 - c. generality.
 - d. strict coherence.

Answer: b

Page Number: 19

Level: Basic

12. Which of the following occurs when jurors return a verdict which is consistent with their own sense of justice and morality, but inconsistent with the law?

- a. Legal minimalism
- b. Legalism
- c. Jury nullification
- d. Jury tampering

Answer: c

Page Number: 10

Level: Basic

13. Sodomy laws:

- a. made it illegal to do nothing if you witness a crime.
- b. criminalized deviant sexual acts such as anal intercourse.
- c. were used by the Nazi German government to justify its behavior.
- d. require the use of safety belts in automobiles if the driver has dependent children.

Answer: b

Page Number: 11

Level: Basic

14. Which of the following allows law enforcement officers to enter homes without first notifying residents of their intent to enter?

- a. Presumptive entry
- b. First Amendment exception
- c. Immediate need clause
- d. No-knock warrant

Answer: d

Page Number: 2

Level: Basic

Chapter 1 True-False

1. According to your text, the behavior of public officials (including criminal justice professionals) should reflect a higher moral character and should be held to a higher moral standard than ordinary persons.

- a. true
- b. false

Answer: a

Page Number: 15-17

Level: Intermediate

2. "Ethics" might best be described as the study of principles of right and wrong, good and bad, while "morality" refers to the *practice* of these principles in everyday life.

a. true
b. false

Answer: a

Page Number: 3-4

Level: Basic

3. Whereas much social scientific inquiry tends to be descriptive in nature, ethics is primarily prescriptive.

a. true
b. false

Answer: a

Page Number: 4

Level: Basic

4. Ethics can best be understood as the study of what is, not what should be.

a. true
b. false

Answer: b

Page Number: 4

Level: Intermediate

5. According to your text, the primary purpose of morality is to enable us to live good lives in a just society.

a. true
b. false

Answer: a

Page Number: 7

Level: Basic

6. We do not need ethics if we have laws.

a. true
b. false

Answer: b

Page Number: 9-12

Level: Basic

7. Simply abiding by the law all of the time makes us moral people.

- a. true
- b. false

Answer: b

Page Number: 12

Level: Basic

8. Social justice is concerned with how a society provides for the needs of its members and the extent to which it treats its subgroups equally.

- a. true
- b. false

Answer: a

Page Number: 15

Level: Basic

9. Illegal or unethical actions of individual police officers are usually detected and reported.

- a. true
- b. false

Answer: b

Page Number: 18-19

Level: Intermediate

10. Refusing to find a defendant guilty of a “mercy killing” would be an example of jury nullification.

- a. true
- b. false

Answer: a

Page Number: 10

Level: Basic

Chapter 1 Essay

1. Briefly discuss at least one reason that the behavior of public officials, including criminal justice professionals, should be held to higher moral standards than that of ordinary persons.

Answer: Should include discussion of one or more of the following:

Authority, power, and discretion held by criminal justice professionals

Criminal justice agents as **public servants**

The ways in which **individual behavior reflects the institution**

Page Number: 15-17

Level: Intermediate

2. Providing at least one example, briefly discuss the notion that laws can be immoral.

Answer: Should include discussion with specific example of the notion that laws can be immoral. Specific examples might include: **Nuremberg laws**; slavery; discrimination.

Page Number: 10

Level: Intermediate