



1



2

### Another Definition of Ethics

• Ethics refers to standards and practices that tell us how human beings ought to act in the many situations in which they find themselves—as friends, parents, children, citizens, businesspeople, professionals, and so on. Ethics is also concerned with our character. It requires knowledge, skills, and habits.

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#### What Ethics is NOT

- Ethics is not the same as feelings.
- Ethics is not the same as religion.
- Ethics is not the same as following the law.
- Ethics is not the same as following culturally accepted norms.
- Ethics is not science.

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4

# Six Lenses of Ethical Decision Making

On what basis can we decide between right and wrong – good and bad? The Six Lenses

- The Six Lenses
- The Rights LensThe Justice Lens
- The Common Good Lens
- The Virtue Lens
- The Care Ethics Lens

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5

### Using the Lenses

- The six lenses help us determine what standards of behavior and character traits can be considered right and good.
- There are two problems with the lenses first everyone's perceptions of human civil rights, the common good, and what causes harm.
- The second problem is different lenses could lead to different answers to the question "What is ethics or ethical?"
- Use the lenses as a framework for ethical decision making being aware of unconscious bias and your own perceptions. Santa Clara University – Markkula Center for Applied Ethics

### Framework for Ethical Decision Making

- Identify the ethical issues
- Get the facts
- Evaluate alternative actions (options)
- Choose an option for action and test it
- Implement your decision and reflect on the outcome

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7

# Illinois Code of Ethics

• This document may be found at: https://www.ilsos.gov/publications/pdf\_publica\_ tions/ipub26.pdf

8

# Questions for Discussion

- •What does it mean to you to be "ethical"?
- How do the values you live by affect your ethics? What are those values?



