

## **Seminar Report on “Professional Ethics”**

**1. Date of the Seminar/Workshop:** 15-11-2021

**2. Title of the Seminar/Workshop:** “Professional Ethics”

**3. Name of the Speaker/Resource person with Affiliation with the institute/industry:**

Dr. Vikram V. Shete

**Industry:** - Ninsar Agritech

**Designation:** - Founder

**4. Venue of the Seminar/Workshop:** Platform used-Google meet

**5. Duration of the Seminar:** 2 hours (1.00 pm to 3.00 pm)

**6. Conducted For:** Students of final year computer Engineering

**7. Objective of the Seminar/Workshop /Curriculum Gap identified/Other than that:**

The objective of the Seminar was basically to ensure that the students develop critical thinking skills that will help them to recognize potential ethical dilemmas. This workshop was conducted to draw the attention of all towards the problems and challenges that are there in front of us at the levels of individual, family, society and nature. This workshop is mainly to increase ethical knowledge and improve ethical thinking.

**8. Contents of the Seminar/Workshop:**

The 1.5 hours period was very interactive and aroused key enthusiasm among students. The speaker started with

- A layman’s perspective on personal and professional ethics
- Why am I (Dr Vikram V. Shete) qualified to give this seminar?
- What is Ethics?
- Why do I need any ethic?
- Miracle in the Andes @3750 meters on Oct 13<sup>th</sup>, 1972
- Ethical Dilemma
- A quick survey on Ethical Dilemma
- Paradigms of Ethical Dilemma
- Professional Ethics
- Professional Ethical Dilemmas
- Closing thoughts

## 9. Description of the Entire Event

The Computer Department at St. Francis Institute of Technology hosted a seminar on “Professional Ethics” on Monday, November 15, 2021, from 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm, online via Google meet.

There were approximately 140 student participants and 2 faculty participants who attended the seminar. The opening remark was given by Ms. Delicia Fernandes where she introduced the Speaker, Mr. Vikram V. Shete.

Further, the speaker took over the session and started off by diving right into the topic ‘A layman’s perspective on personal and professional ethics.’ He emphasized that professional ethics are an extension of personal ethics. He also mentioned that ethics change from time to time and from situation to situation depending on the frame of reference. Something that is ethical in the oil industry might absolutely be unethical in the IT industry, he added.

He further spoke about why he was qualified to give the session wherein he summarized his life experiences transitioning from a salary of few lakhs to wondering how to pay rent, failed relationships, marriage and parenting, etc. where he did not give up but kept going. He highlighted the importance of being optimistic even in challenging situations.

Then he spoke about ‘what is ethics?’ and ‘Why do I need any ethic in my life?’.

He then described the two types of ethics:

1. Taking tough calls and decisions
2. Deciding right or wrong

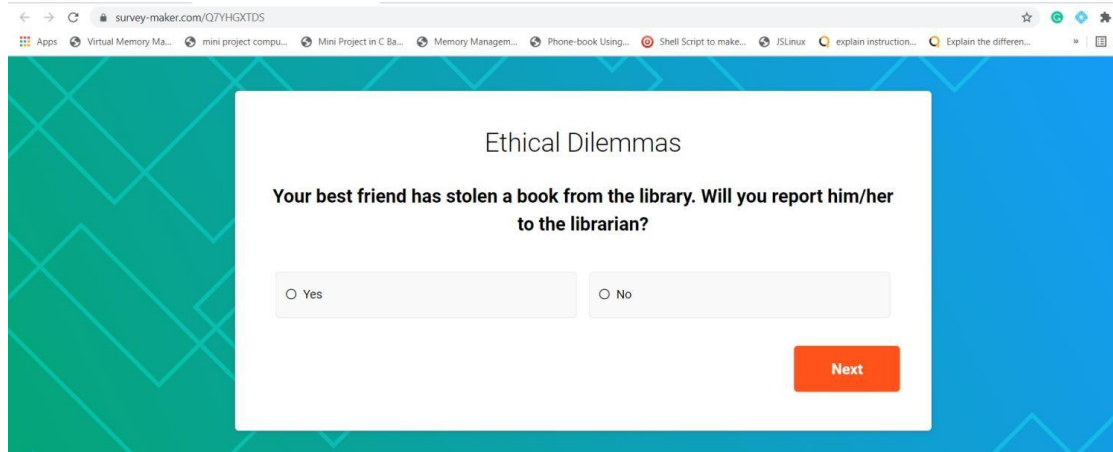
He explained these types by using the world war and triage as an example where work ethics come in to play.

He further cited the example of ‘the Miracle in the Andes’ – in which a Uruguayan rugby team crashed in the Andes on October 13, 1972, and cannibalism helped some of them survive two months in harsh and severe conditions. He then enlightened us on ‘Ethical Dilemma’ which takes place while decision-making, which made the survivors of Andes choose cannibalism as a means of survival.

Following that, he specified three conditions that must be satisfied in an Ethical Dilemma, which were as follows:

1. There have to be alternative courses of action to choose from.
2. Decision has to be made on the best course of action
3. Other ethical principle is compromised (Super Hero Dilemma)

He then shared a link to take a quick survey. The following four questions were included in the survey:



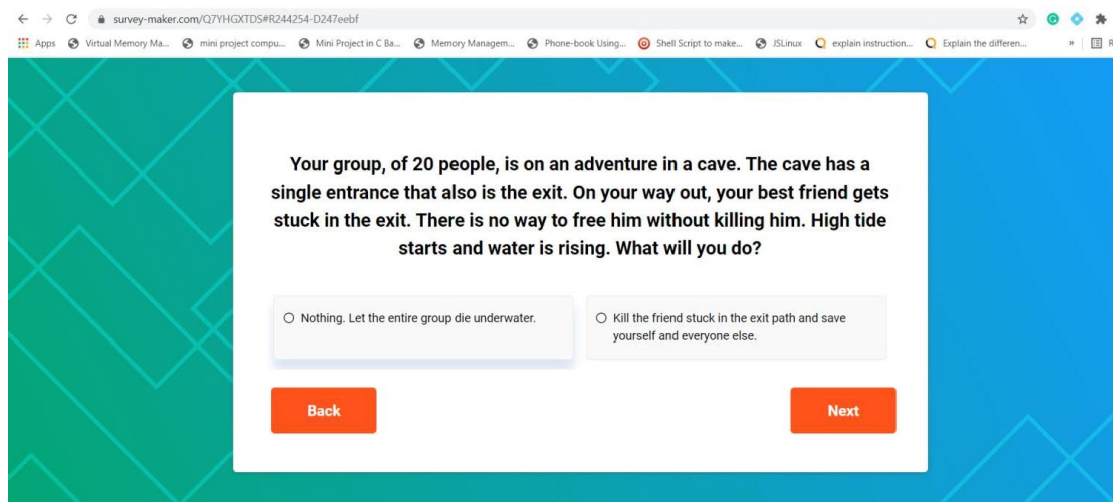
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### Ethical Dilemmas

**Your best friend has stolen a book from the library. Will you report him/her to the librarian?**

Yes  No

Next

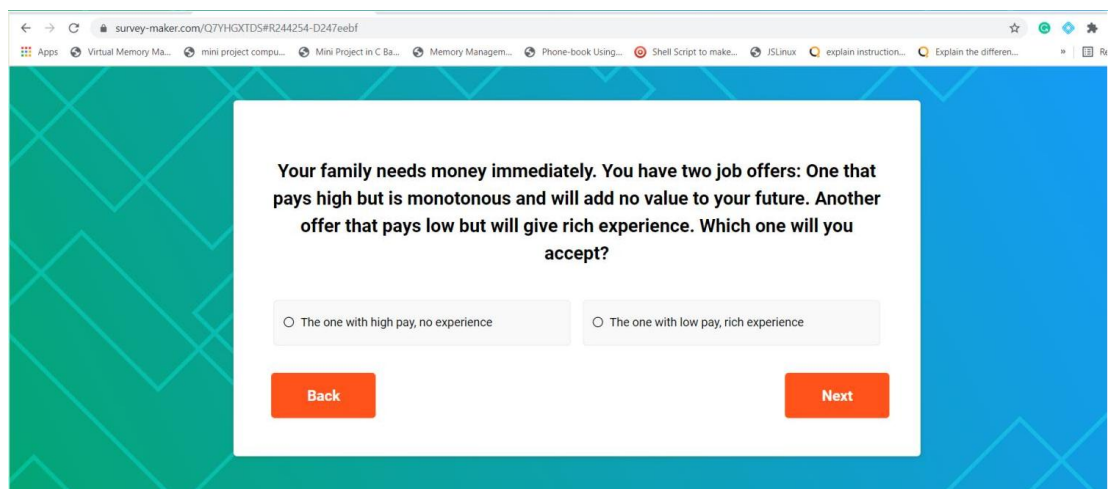


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**Your group, of 20 people, is on an adventure in a cave. The cave has a single entrance that also is the exit. On your way out, your best friend gets stuck in the exit. There is no way to free him without killing him. High tide starts and water is rising. What will you do?**

Nothing. Let the entire group die underwater.  Kill the friend stuck in the exit path and save yourself and everyone else.

Back Next

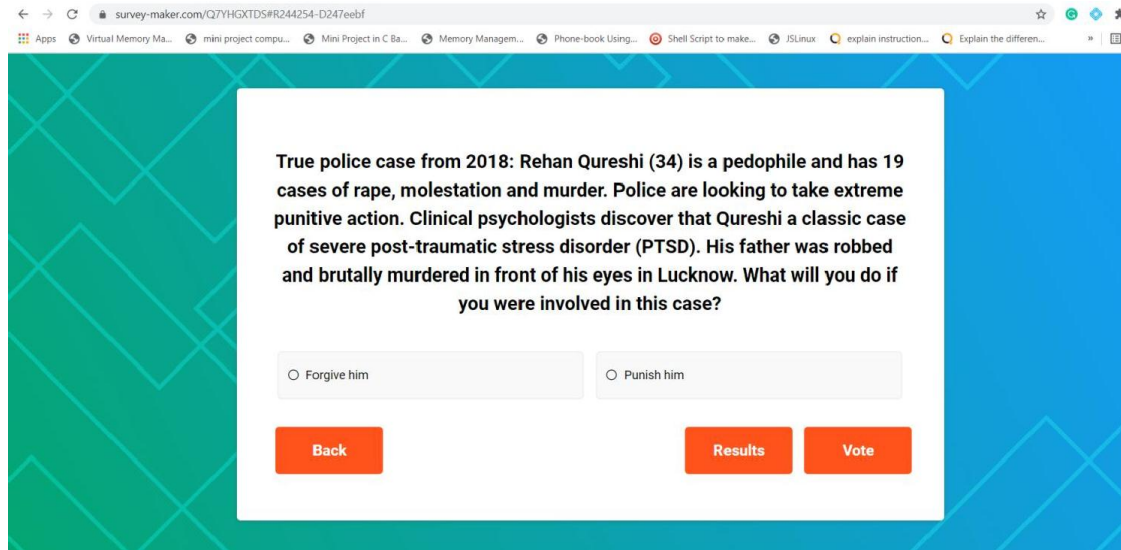


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**Your family needs money immediately. You have two job offers: One that pays high but is monotonous and will add no value to your future. Another offer that pays low but will give rich experience. Which one will you accept?**

The one with high pay, no experience  The one with low pay, rich experience

Back Next



Moving further, he explained the Paradigm of Ethical Dilemma which were

1. Truth v/s Loyalty
2. Short term v/s Long term
3. Individual v/s Community
4. Justice v/s Mercy

He explained many Decision-Making Principles and provided an example from his own life in which he was faced with a choice over the publication of his project's data points. He also defined Professional Ethics and enumerated many Professional Dilemmas, as well as providing a few examples of Professional Ethics. He also posed questions such as "Is lying ethical in your standards?" and "Have you plagiarized in the previous several years?" among others. He finished by citing Victor Frankie.

At the end of the session, everyone turned on their cameras and took a virtual group photo. Mrs. Sweedle Machado, Mrs. Safa Hamdare, and Ms. Delicia Fernandes gave our speaker a vote of gratitude and useful input on this information-packed webinar, and the webinar was ended on this note. The students had a better grasp of Professional Ethics and how to cope with ethical challenges as a result of this session.

## Session Photographs

# A Layman's Perspective of Personal & Professional Ethics

Dr. Vikram V. Shete

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Dr. Vikram V. Shete



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Dr. Vikram V. Shete

## Ethics

Why do I need any ethic?  
Taking Tough Calls/Decisions  
(Triage)

D

Dr. Vikram V. Shete

# Ethics

Why do I need any ethic?  
Deciding Right & Wrong

D

Dr. Vikram V. Shete

Miracle in the Andes @ 3570 Mtrs. (Oct. 13th, 1972): (elevation of mumbai is 14 mtrs)

- 1) Flight crashes with 45 passengers onboard
- 2) Roughly 30 survive the crash

What next?

D

Dr. Vikram V. Shete

# Ethical Dilemma

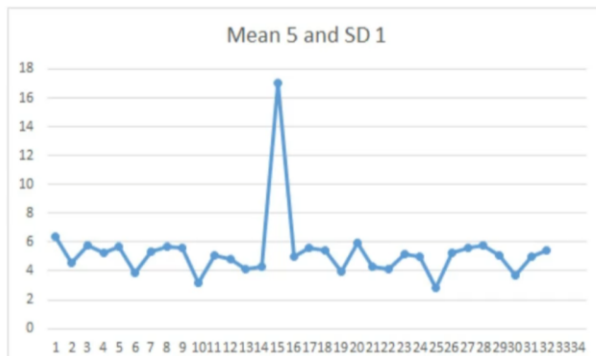
Three conditions must be met:

1. There have to be alternative courses of action to choose from
2. Decision has to be made on the best course of action
3. Other ethical principle is compromised. (Super Hero Dilemma)

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Dr. Vikram V. Shete

What will you do?



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Dr. Vikram V. Shete

Determining right or wrong action.

**The legal test:**

Is the action legal? If not, it may be unethical.

[http://www.citadel.edu/root/images/krause\\_center/leadership\\_day/ldr%20311%20mctmscb.pdf](http://www.citadel.edu/root/images/krause_center/leadership_day/ldr%20311%20mctmscb.pdf)

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Dr. Vikram V. Shete

## Decision Making Principles

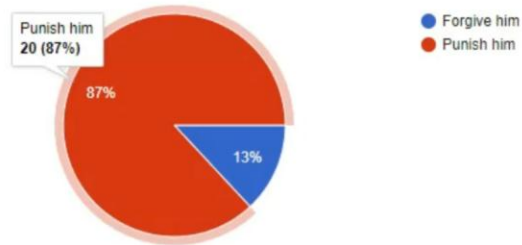
1. Ends based: Consider the consequences of your action. Do what produces the greatest good for the greatest number
2. Rules based: An action is right only if it conforms to a universally applicable moral rule.
3. Care Based: Empathize with others. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

D

Dr. Vikram V. Shete

True police case from 2018: Rehan Qureshi (34) is a pedophile and has 19 cases of rape, molestation and murder. Police are looking to take extreme punitive action. Clinical psychologists discover that Qureshi a classic case of severe post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). His father was robbed and brutally murdered in front of his eyes in Lucknow. What will you do if you were involved in this case?

23 responses



Dr. Vikram V. Shete

## Quick test

Is lying ethical in your standards?



Dr. Vikram V. Shete

## Closing Thoughts

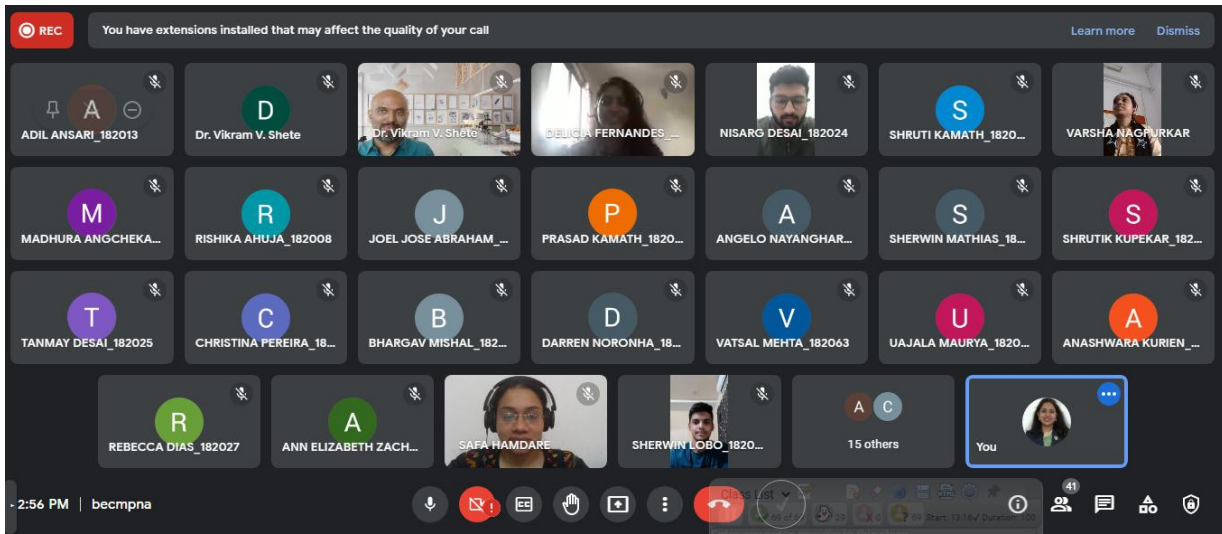
Between stimulus and response there is a space. In that space is our power to choose our response. In our response lies our growth and our freedom.

~ Viktor Frankl



Dr. Vikram V. Shete





**Ms. Varsha N and Ms. Snehal K.**

**Seminar Incharge**

**Dr. Kavita Sonawane**

**HOD, CMPN**