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The Ethical Standard And LDRSHIP

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L564 Ethics Thought Paper  
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15 Oct 04

### The Ethical Standard

NCOs must exemplify ethical conduct to be effective and credible in their daily duties as a leader. The core values include a commitment to the dignity, well-being, and self-determination of the individual; a commitment to professional practice characterized by competence and integrity. Many leaders find themselves dealing with situations that lead them down a gray road of what is ethically right or wrong. Often what's ethical depends on the individual, the group, the culture, tradition and background, however the army has its own guidelines for ethical values that Soldiers must live by. The acronym for this is LDRSHIP.

Loyalty is a feeling of faithfulness, a leader must be faithful to Soldiers at all times, they must foster a sense of predictability and understanding. They must be loyal to Soldiers and Soldiers will be loyal to them. Leaders must never allow loyalty to be misused; the most important part of loyalty is the trust of a Soldier, peers and your superiors. Loyalty among warriors is mostly the unspoken commitment exchanged among their brethren. Leaders establish loyalty in many different ways. An example is, exhibiting technical and tactical proficiency. Proficiency lets subordinates know that a leader is well rounded in the employment of Soldiers and equipment. Whereas, taking care of a soldier when situations may not favor their side is also another form of loyalty. At this junction in a leader subordinate relationship, a leader earns the loyalty of the soldier. When soldiers come to the conclusion that a leader is willing to go above and beyond in caring for them the leader receives the ultimate award the soldier's loyalty to them.

Duty is something that one is expected or required to do by moral or legal obligation. Duty charges leaders to be morally strong and teach Soldiers to be the same way. Duty is the thing that wakes you in the morning without an alarm clock. Duty means living up to your

commitment at all times day or night, rain or snow. It is the drive that drives Soldiers to exceed the standards and be the best they can in all that they do. To take responsibility and do what is right, no matter how hard the task is. Duty allows leaders to accomplish the mission in the absence of order or direction, to put the Nation's welfare ahead of their on personal safety.

Respect is the condition of being honored. Respect is something that is earned; you must give respect in order to receive it. Soldier will respect a leaders position, or their rank, but not the person themselves, simply because it is the law, but if you show Soldiers respect they will return the respect with pride.

Selfless service is giving of one self to your unit or country, with little or no regard for your interests. When leaders put their Soldiers and mission first, it builds a sense of loyalty and respect between the leader and the subordinates. Your Soldiers will always give back what you give them. Selfless service makes you aware of what is right in the eyes of our nation. This is where leaders learn to balance devotion to their job, and dedication to their family. A leader must understand when it is the right time to work long hours and weekend in order to accomplish the mission, and when it is time to call it a early day and give the Soldiers time off.

Honor is fairness, or honesty in ones beliefs and action. Nothing is more important to most Soldiers than honor. Once Soldiers commit to serving their country, honor becomes an everyday fact of life. As honor holds our allegiance to the United States, Soldiers

emulate their leaders, they select the good thing they do and make it a part of their leadership style, as they become leaders. That is why leaders must be honest and fair in all that they do. As small children we were taught to always tell the truth and to play fair, and not cheat at games. Leaders should use these same principles as adults in their day-to-day lives as they lead.

Integrity is steadfast adherence to a strict moral, or ethical code. As a leader integrity, is the one thing that no one can take from you. Sometimes we make mistakes and give it away, and we will never be able to get it back. There are so many things that occur in our daily lives that might tempt leaders to compromise their integrity, however a great leader will resist the temptation of bending the rules and compromising their integrity. They must always do the hard right and not do the easy wrong.

Personal courage comes in two-forms, physical, and moral bravery. Physical courage encompasses the will and determination to overcome the fear of bodily harm. Soldiers understand that when needed, they will sacrifice their very being in order to accomplish the mission. Although warriors show physical courage on the battlefield, moral courage is an internal trait. Moral courage is the trait that warriors exhibit allowing them to assume responsibility for their actions. A Soldier's personal courage encompasses every value, trait, and characteristic of the ethos mentality, without personal courage a Soldier will never be a leader. The ethical values that we are taught as children by our parents and the seven-army values that leaders are taught by the army are the guidelines for ethical values that leaders should use every day. Many leaders are tempted to behave unethically because it is the path of least resistance. Leaders must guard against taking the path of least resistance and do what is ethically right, because the army expects nothing short of excellence from its leaders.

We must use our ethical values each and every day and live up to our warrior's ethos. Warrior Ethos is best explained as the deep embedded sense of values a soldier feels towards his leaders, peers, and subordinates. A base of moral and ethical values instilled by family and friends during adolescent, sets the stage for the intense feelings of camaraderie a soldier

experiences while serving in the Army. By integrating the Army values to an already solid base of learned oral and ethical behaviors, a Soldier immediately embraces the warrior ethos.