

Breakout Session 2: Ethical Battlefield

([Army Doctrine Publication \(ADP\) No. 6-22](#))

Modified Rushworth Kidder's [Ethical Decision Making Model](#)

Ethics: What I ought to do!! The “ethical battlefield” are the hundreds of decisions we are confronted with every day of our lives. Many of those decisions are made based on our emotions versus logic or reason. Many people struggle making ethical choices because they may believe that making the ethical choices puts them at a disadvantage, when so many peers and colleagues are making unethical choices. Without training to assist us in making tough choices, many will continue to struggle with making good choices. To make better ethical choices, it is helpful to have an ethical decision-making model (EDMM).

There are numerous ethical decision-making models. It is recommended that you pick one and use it until making ethical choices is a habit. Practicing with an [ethical decision-making model](#) on ethical scenarios will build ethical decision-making “muscle” and assist with making ethical choices. Ethical decision-making muscle is developed in much the same as common muscle: practice, practice, practice. More than anything, being an ethical leader requires courage. Here is the path to courage: Practice, practice, practice. Do one courageous act at a time, then increase the tempo. As you read the foundational material below, answer these questions: Why should I be ethical-what’s in it for me? Also answer: How do I become ethical? Without a strong enough “why” it is hard to commit to becoming the ethical leader soldiers need. Once you have a strong enough why, there are centuries of studies, and as many recommendations, on “how” to become ethical. The [Ben Franklin’s Virtuous System](#) comes to mind. For a basic start, on what, why and how to be ethical, be familiar with the references below.)

The Definition of Lying

(USCC Cir 351-2)

Deliberately deceiving another by communicating an untruth through any direct form of communication to include the telling of a partial truth or using partial information or ambiguous language with the intent to deceive or mislead.

The Definition of Cheating.

(USCC Cir 351-2)

Acting out of self-interest or assisting another to do so with the intent to gain or to give an unfair advantage.

The Definition of Stealing

(USCC Cir 351-2)

To wrongfully take, obtain, or withhold, by any means, from the possession of the owner or any other person, any money, personal property, article, or service of value of any kind, with intent to:

- permanently deprive or defraud another person of the use and benefit of property or
- to appropriate it to either their own use or the use of any person other than the owner

Three Rules of Thumb: Decision-Making

(WP Honor Code) (USCC Cir 351-2)

1. Does this action attempt to deceive anyone or allow anyone to be deceived?
2. Does this action gain or allow the gain of privilege or advantage to which I, or someone else would not otherwise be entitled?
3. Would I be dissatisfied by the outcome if I were on the receiving end of this action?

The Army Ethic

(ADP 6-22c1)

The *Army ethic* is the set of enduring moral principles, values, beliefs, and laws that guide the Army profession and create the culture of trust essential to Army professionals in the conduct of missions, performance of duty, and all aspects of life.