



1 Effective Governance through Ethical Leadership

Tips for Moral Decision Making

Moral decision making is based on sound general decision-making principles. The steps below outline a model that a leader can use to make an ethical decision:

- **Think through the moral or ethical dilemma which you are facing.**

Try to identify all of its components as objectively as possible.

- **Think of all the options which are available to you.**

Determine which option you believe to be the most moral/ ethical.

At this point, you may wish to make this decision alone or in consultation with others.

- **Give your decision the “ethical test.”**

Ask yourself if you would feel comfortable if your decision and reasoning for it were printed in the newspaper.

- **Think of the consequences of your decision.**

- What is the worst thing that could occur?
- What is the best thing that could occur?
- Can you accept both of these potential outcomes?