

Social Issues in Management and Business Ethics: Exercises and Activities

Exercise/Activity Title:

Discussion Ground Rules

Exercise/Activity Explanation (150 words or less):

Everyone should feel free to respectfully express their opinions, and to respectfully listen to the opinions of others. Participants should read the Discussion Ground Rules at the beginning of an ethics discussion and agree to abide by them. Have a different person read each Ground Rule. The group leader should intervene the moment a participant violates a ground rule. Ask participants which ground rule has been violated, and have everyone read each ground rule again.

Assignment is on the following page.

Optional – Contact Information:

If interested in additional information, please contact Professor Denis Collins, School of Business, Edgewood College, Madison, WI; dcollins@edgewood.edu

Discussion Ground Rules

Denis Collins, Edgewood College, dcollins@edgewood.edu

1. Treat *every single person* in the room with complete and unconditional respect.
2. Please relax and share your opinion when you wish. Your voice is important.
3. The moderator will call on every person that requests to speak. He/she will keep track of your turn. You will get to speak.
4. If you disagree, please speak out. If you remain quiet we will never know your objections.
5. We all agree to disagree and continue to respect each other unconditionally even *after* our engaging discussions.
6. You can change your mind. It is allowed.
7. No retributions. You can speak your mind and no one will deny your right to your opinion.
8. *Please use your voice.* The goal is that everyone will speak. It is not, however, required.
9. Read the first guideline again...