

Social Issues in Management and Business Ethics: Exercises and Activities

Exercise/Activity Title:

Aristotle Happiness Survey

Exercise/Activity Explanation (150 words or less):

Aristotle maintained that happiness is a function of four factors: health, wealth, intellectual virtue and moral virtue. Students assess their happiness, and happiness within their organization, using an Aristotle Happiness Survey. Students highlight strengths, weaknesses, and a continuous improvement recommendation that addresses a weakness.

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

The Purpose of Life

Aristotle reasoned that happiness is a function of four factors:

- 1) Health – For the most part, healthy people are happier than sick people: Are you in good health?
- 2) Wealth – For the most part, wealthy people are happier than poor people: Are you earning an adequate salary?
- 3) Intellectual Virtue – For the most part, educated people are happier than uneducated people: Are you continually learning new things?
- 4) Moral Virtue – For the most part, moral people are happier than immoral people: Are you continually doing good deeds?

Aristotle's Happiness Survey

Instructions: Please use the 1-5 scale below to assess how well each of the following statements exemplifies you and the organization. The more honest you are the more helpful the information you will receive.

1= *Strongly Disagree*; 2= *Disagree*; 3= *Neither Agree nor Disagree*; 4= *Agree*; 5= *Strongly Agree*

	<i>SD</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>SA</i>
You					
1) Health: I am in good health.	1	2	3	4	5
2) Wealth: I am earning an adequate salary.	1	2	3	4	5
3) Intellectual Virtue: I am continually learning new things.	1	2	3	4	5
4) Moral Virtue: I am continually doing good deeds.	1	2	3	4	5
Your Organization					
1) Health: Our employees are in good health.	1	2	3	4	5
2) Wealth: Our employees earn an adequate salary.	1	2	3	4	5
3) Intellectual Virtue: Our employees continually learn new things.	1	2	3	4	5
4) Moral Virtue: Our employees continually do good deeds.	1	2	3	4	5
<i>How can you improve <u>your own</u> lowest score item?</i>					
<i>How can <u>your organization's</u> lowest score item?</i>					