

The Missing Ethic in Corporate America

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Most of us would like to view ourselves as being honest and having a strong sense of integrity. And, indeed we are – at least, at the basic level of not lying, cheating or stealing. But ethics is more than just about telling the truth – it should also be about telling all of the truth.

We will examine multiple levels of honesty and integrity and show that many – if not most – executives in corporate America do not measure up to the higher bars of integrity. Not that most executives cheat, lie or steal. Indeed they do not. But, most executives are not intellectually honest. Indeed, it is very difficult to operate at the highest level of integrity within most corporate cultures. This missing ethic in corporate America fuels a corporate culture of politics, backstabbing, and infighting, causing considerable job dissatisfaction amongst the rank and file and inefficiency in the organization. The actual and opportunity cost of this missing ethic in corporate America is far greater than the cost of malfeasance committed by the few corrupt corporate executives.

We will offer concrete tools to think through your own level of integrity, and that of your colleagues. These tools are useful not only for corporate executives themselves, but for all senior individuals in corporations in assessing their corporate culture. We will suggest ways that the culture of an organization can encourage everyone to operate at a higher level of integrity that actually enhances value in the organization.

This thought provoking talk relates directly to most workplace environments. It is likely to cause every member of the audience to examine their own value systems.