Universal or Situational Ethics

(1/4 page down from top)

Your Name here

(1/2 page down from top)

Date Here

(All double-spaced)

The framework of ethics in operational officers appears to be contentious. Several schools of thoughts commend and shun ethical values nourished by these operational officers. Irrefutably, these officers shave to fabricate ethics as per the circumstances and thus these ethics mostly become situational dependent. Universal ethics pertain to pursuing absolute ethical values regardless of circumstances or need. For instance, an operational officer may come across a scenario where ethical dilemmas surface and urge him to commit an unethical and relentless act. An informant may seek facilitation from the officer by demanding several needs. He may advance toward prostitution which will surely be heard by the officer to cultivate his mission but in case the informant demands for child prostitution, things become haywire. The fundamental values of ethics and humanity are desecrated because of the application of situational ethics[[1]](#footnote-1).

Moreover, the operational officer is required to adhere to truth and honesty while reporting to seniors about acquired information and resources used to accomplish the objective. None can validate the moral statute of these officers but a wide range of cynics stipulate them to be morally corrupt. The application of situational ethics makes them controversial but a critical appraisal of reality reflects it is a challenging task to implement universal ethics in espionage activities[[2]](#footnote-2). They may spy on people without their permission which may appear innocent in the end. Likewise, they can advance to convey false or fabricated information to their superiors and subordinates. The bottom line is that ethics ought to be observed in true letter and spirits by these officers irrespective of scenario, need or circumstances.

Bibliography

“Fair Play: The Moral Dilemmas of Spying — Central Intelligence Agency.” Accessed June 18, 2019. https://www.cia.gov/library/center-for-the-study-of-intelligence/csi-publications/csi-studies/studies/vol51no1/fair-play-the-moral-dilemmas-of-spying.html.

University, Santa Clara. “Ethical Relativism.” Accessed June 18, 2019. https://www.scu.edu/ethics/ethics-resources/ethical-decision-making/ethical-relativism/.

1. “Fair Play: The Moral Dilemmas of Spying — Central Intelligence Agency,” accessed June 18, 2019, https://www.cia.gov/library/center-for-the-study-of-intelligence/csi-publications/csi-studies/studies/vol51no1/fair-play-the-moral-dilemmas-of-spying.html. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Santa Clara University, “Ethical Relativism,” accessed June 18, 2019, https://www.scu.edu/ethics/ethics-resources/ethical-decision-making/ethical-relativism/. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)