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Ethics Reflection Paper - VW Emissions Scandal

**Introduction**

The modern world has progressed very much in every field of life. We have far more resources than the previous generations. The business has reached the highest levels of its history, and philosophical theories have raised new questions about the New World. The contemporary human being claims to be the most advanced and most civilized human being who knows the good and evil best than any previous race. Similarly, the human being has introduced work-ethics to promote the production industry in the world that believes in a win-win situation in around society. Global warming has been causing catastrophic changes in our climate and the world leaders claim that they are making honest policies to cope with this danger. Volkswagen Scandal has raised many new questions about the integrity of modern human being’s claims. A giant company of a civilized country deceived millions of people for so many years. It shows that the modern human being is either as uncivilized as the savages or perhaps more than them if we examine through intellectual perspective.

**Body**

Volkswagen Scandal has proved that work-ethics are a sham and hollow words of hypocrite white-colour criminals. Famous luxury cars like Bentley, Bugatti, Lamborghini, Audi, Porsche, SEAT, and Škoda are produced by Volkswagen Group of Germany. They earn billions of dollars annually and millions of people trust them although these numbers have fallen and still falling since the world came to know about the shameful act of the company (Rhodes, Carl. P.p. 1501-1518). Germany is a leading country among those who propagate measures to control Global warming. Germany itself is affected by the increasing global temperature with many other European countries. Many countries in Africa and Asia have been suffering due to climate change and it is believed that Maldives (a South Asian island) will sink into the ocean in a couple of years. This gravity of the issue is well known by every literate person in the world, how can such a great group of companies undermine such an issue and how can they mislead the millions? Where this excess of selfishness came from?

Two philosophical approaches are proposed to analyze why people in any organization or other governing body behave in a certain way. Utilitarianism believes that "the end justifies the means". This is an old approach used by the ancient monarchs to justify their wrong acts. The other approach is the deontological approach that believes otherwise. It claims that we should never choose a wrong path to chase the right goal because the achievement of goals is uncertain but our wrong ways might produce other wrong results. Volkswagen Group has followed *the utilitarian* approach, but they did not clarify what right purpose they wanted to achieve. It is apparent that it was mere selfishness (Cavico, Mujtaba. N.p). They were not going to reveal their shameful act if there were no research by Arvind Thiruvengadam of the Virginia University of America. The contemporary business needs a strict watch all over the world because this community is so insensitive to the matters of mass destruction.

**Conclusion**

Work ethics have become much important in the contemporary century than ever in history. Business has become so complex in nature that it has become harder governments to keep a check on the activities of the businesses, but Volkswagen Scandal has proved that these shameless and unethical white-color criminals would not fear from setting a fire on the whole world for their petty interests if they are not checked regularly by independent bodies. The article and the video concluded that the new criminals must be told that *the ends do not justify the means*.

**Works Cited**

Cavico, D. F. J., and Bahaudin G. Mujtaba. "Volkswagen emissions scandal: a global case study of legal, ethical, and practical consequences and recommendations for sustainable management." *Global Journal of Research in Business & Management Vol* 4.2 (2016).

Rhodes, Carl. "Democratic business ethics: Volkswagen’s emissions scandal and the disruption of corporate sovereignty." *Organization Studies* 37.10 (2016): 1501-1518.