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Integrity

According to the Merriam Webster, “Integrity is the quality of being honest and fair.” It is considered as a Latin word, which describes integrity as otherwise. It defines integrity, integritatem, means “soundness,” or “completeness” (*Integrity | Origin and Meaning of Integrity by Online Etymology Dictionary*). Now a day this term is commonly used interchangeably with honesty and is described as a moral trait. However, as the definitions reveal, integrity is something much more than honesty or moral. Saying having integrity is not all about just being honest, saying this is inaccurate because a person having integrity is not honest all the time. That is just the ethical perception of integrity. Depending on all the definitions and meanings, integrity is a concept of consistency of actions, principles, values and outcomes, being honest and truthful in one’s actions and also the maintenance of one’s own identity.

Consistency is about remaining the same whatever the situation occurs. It is all about showing consistency in whatever the situation approaches, for instance, if your decisions change according to your moods then it is not the consistent behavior, this is an example of the inconsistency of actions. Even if the environment is not great, integrity demands a leader to remain consistent. This is why integrity is also described as an attribute of leaders. The consistency of words and deeds is also symbolized an integral person.

Being consistent also requires honesty and accuracy in one’s actions. This is the most common meaning associated with this word. One of my friends is of the view that integrity is all about doing the right thing knowing that no one is looking. It is honest and accurate in one's actions intentionally despite knowing that there is no audience. It is integrity which motivates a person, to be honest. Most of the people hold this view of integrity that is all about being accurate and doing the right things no matter what.

In view of its Latin definition, integrity is wholeness and completeness of a character. Integrity as self-integration particularity promotes this concept. Being whole means there is only one "you," and it is visible by the choices and actions. For instance, if a person has to choose between studying and going to party he chooses to study. This means he values his inner self and is consistent with it. In addition, integrity also relates to a person’s authenticity to his commitments, which determines his identity. If he considers himself as a time manager and fails to do it questions his identity. This viewpoint of integrity is behaving in the way which showcases your sense of who you are, however, this concept often goes against the one typically associated with word integrity.

Briefly, integrity does not hold a true single meaning, and its accurate gist is still vague. Looking at many definitions and meaning highlight the fact that a person cannot be in 100% integrity at all. According to many researchers, it is subjective and differs from person to person. Based on a number of meanings and interpretations it is a way of acting morally and also relates to a person's self. A person with integrity is always true to himself and others, and hence it promotes a positive society.

Works Cited

*Integrity | Origin and Meaning of Integrity by Online Etymology Dictionary*. https://www.etymonline.com/word/integrity. Accessed 19 Feb. 2019.