

Ethical Climate

The social contract between employers and employees is redefined. Defense contractors are required to conform to stringent rules. Corporations downsize and employees' attitudes about loyalty to the employer are eroded. Health care ethics emphasized.

Major Ethical Dilemmas

Bribes and illegal contracting practices

Influence peddling

Deceptive advertising

Financial fraud (savings and loan scandal)

Transparency issues arise

Business Ethics Developments

ERC develops the U.S. Code of Ethics for Government Service (1980)

ERC forms first business ethics office at General Dynamics (1985)

Defense Industry Initiative established (1986)

Some companies create ombudsman positions in addition to ethics officer roles

False Claims Act (government contracting)

