

FOUR TOUGH ETHICAL DILEMMAS
RIGHT vs RIGHT DECISIONS
By RUSHWORTH KIDDER
HOW GOOD PEOPLE MAKE TOUGH CHOICES

1. Truth vs loyalty
2. Individual vs community
3. Short-term vs long-term
4. Justice vs mercy

NINE CHECKPOINTS FOR ETHICAL DECISION MAKING

1. Recognize there is a moral issue;
2. Determine the actor (who does the problem belong to?);
3. Gather the relevant facts;
4. Test for right vs. wrong issues;
5. Test for right vs. right paradigms;
6. Apply the resolution principles: ends-based, rules-based, care-based;
7. Investigate the “trilemma” option: a third option in an ethical dilemma that allows a win-win solution;
8. Make the decision;
9. Revisit and reflect on the decision.

(Recommended by Craig VanSandt, Assoc. Prof. of Management, and David W. Wilson Chair in Business Ethics, UNI.)