

# Engineering Codes: Ethics or Law?

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## Ethical Norms in the Code of Ethics Exercise

We've examined two ethical norms: Aristotlian Virtue and Pluralistic Utilitarianism. Here we're going to survey to what extent these normative systems are embodied in, demanded by, or allowed by the DAPE Code of Ethics.

### **Aristotlian Virtue:**

Aristotle believed virtuous people are created by two influences. Are the following two Aristotlian influences present in the DAPE Code of Ethics:

- teaching of virtues
- laws which restrict and guide behavior

Which predominates? Which appears more of an afterthought?

Aristotle also believed that virtuous people make right actions. Does the DAPE Code of Ethics mandate, consider or allow such a basis for an engineer to choose actions?

### **Pluralistic Utilitarianism:**

Pluralistic utilitarianism requires that right action be selected by considering the cumulative positive/negative outcome of each option.

Is such a process mandated, considered, or even allowed in the DAPE Code of Ethics?