Lesson 8: Business Ethics

From The Ground Up

The problem

What you want

You really, really, really want to make money.

What's the problem

There are many ways to make money. You can work hard-but success is not always quick in coming.

What you don't want

The opportunity to steal, lie, and cheat will be there.

Stronger than the Temptation to be Unethical

Morals.

Remember what you stand for. There is value beyond having money that should make you stand proud.

Stronger than the Temptation to be Unethical

Mentor.

Keep yourself in a position where you are looked up to. Knowing that your actions have a deeper impact will keep you in check.

Stronger than the Temptation to be Unethical

Transparency.

Make sure that you are not in the position to make unethical business decisions without any oversight.

Stronger than the Temptation to be Unethical

Motivation.

Keeping yourself motivated with inspirational quotes, talks, and videos will keep your spirits high even when the going gets tough.

Stronger than the Temptation to be Unethical

Solidarity.

Work with people who have values that you respect. Together, make a mission statement based on your values and abide by those values in all your business dealings.

Ethics Review Board

Define Your Values

Write a Code of Conduct

Mission Statement

Write a clear statement of goals for your company, and the values you hold dear. Include honesty, hard-work, transparency, and all other work-ethic values that are dear to you.

Employee Contract

Write a clear code of expectations for the way you and your entire company will conduct yourselves in all business matters. Include

Establish an Ethics Committee

External Review Board

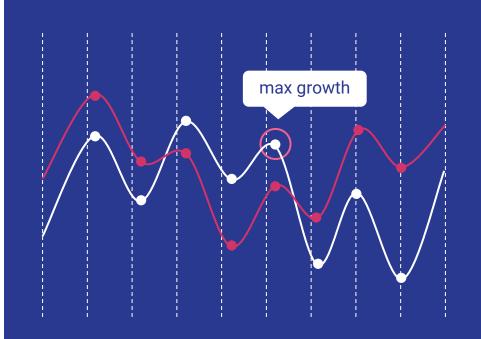
There may be a time where the ethics involved in a business decision are questioned. Appoint someone outside the business to review your actions. This leaves you responsible to someone for your actions.

Implementation

Sealed Survey

Write down three values that are important to you personally.

These should be values you hope people will respect that you uphold. These are also values that you should look for in business partners.



Bias in Business

Who would you sooner do business with?

Is that a fair or a *biased* opinion?





Consider

If you only did business with people who

Look Like You

Dress Like You

Speak Like You

Believe Like You

What Kind Of Opportunities Are We Closing The Door On?





Great companies are INCLUSIVE Great companies are DIVERSE

(IT'S KINDA WHAT MAKES 'EM SO GREAT)

" Clean Money" Vs. "Dirty Money"

Not all Money is Created Equal

What kind of money is this?

- 1. You purchase diamonds from a war zone. You make a LOT of profit but the money you pay is used to fuel more violence and death.
- 2. You sell illegal goods such as drugs and endangered species.
- 3. You find an accountant who has a "special way" to do taxes so that you walk away with a lot more in your pocket.
- 4. You sell a cheap toy for triple the price to gullible resellers.