

Running Head: Ethical Problem Facing the Army Today

Ethical Standards of Behavior: Do as I say not as I do.

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An ethical situation facing the United States Army today is leaders who live by the example “ Do as I say and not as I do.” These leaders feel that they can do whatever they want and not get into trouble, but yet when a Soldier does the same thing, the Soldier gets into trouble. We as senior leaders need to set the example and show the Soldiers the right way to conduct themselves. Lets not forget, today’s Soldiers are tomorrows leaders.

Ethics are something that either a person has or does not have. Ethics are described as how someone should act or behave. Army leaders must have good ethics and should lead by example at all times.

As early as Army Basic Training, Soldiers are taught the seven-army values. These values are the way Soldiers are expected to live by while they serve in the U.S Army. In every NCOES School that Soldiers attend, these same seven army values are talked about I have served in the U.S army for over 20 years, and in each unit there has been numerous NCOs' who fail to live up to these standards. These NCOs' seem to live up to the Do what I say not as I do.

As a young Soldier, I was constantly watching my NCOs and leaders perform, trying to learn from them, so I would know what to do when I was faced with certain situations. I was told early on in my military career to watch both the good and bad NCOs and learn from them. I would keep the good examples and remember the bad, so as to try not to repeat their mistakes.

As a parent your children constantly look to you for advice and guidance. As a parent, if you can't set a good example for them how will they act when they become an adult. Young children will always repeat what they hear their parents say or try to copy what they see an adult do. Numerous times you hear children say curse words and you that they hear it from their parents. I had to learn early in my life that children repeat everything, and how could I punish them for repeating would I said.

As NCOs' and leaders, young Soldiers count on us to do what is right. This is more than being technically and tactically proficient, it is being able to make the right decision at all times. As leaders, if we can't do what is right when no pressure or stress is

put upon us, how can Soldiers trust our decision making process in the heat of battle.

CSM (Urban) started out as a regular BN CSM, setting his own systems in place, nothing new from a brand new CSM. He was in a place for three years until he finally got relieved. He was relieved for sexual misconduct and unbecoming of an NCO. He only had blonde females working in his command section, from his own secretary, to his driver. He was taking pictures of some of these females in the nude in his office during duty hours. One female finally got tired of it and turned him in. During his CSM time, he would slam any soldier or NCO who made a mistake. This man never had a good thing to say to any 1SG or PLT sergeant. This CSM could not pass a PT test or the height weight standards, now this part is my opinion, because he never would do either one. I do know that he would never start or finish a battalion, brigade, or any kind of formation type of run. But he would get onto the 1SG's and the commanders for having Soldiers and NCOs' who were over weight or failed a PT test. This CSM is just another example of do as I say not as I do.

CPT Goldsworthy, a company commander Ft. Leonard Wood, MO ran his company into the ground, he worked the line platoons from day light until dark. Still being a company commander, he relieved a platoon leader for having an inappropriate relationship with an enlisted Soldier. He has given out numerous article 15's and reprimands to Soldiers who made little mistakes. This man would not listen to his 1sg or any NCO in the company when trying to give him advice. After about a year in command, we were at Ft. Pickett, VA for training exercises, he got involved with one of his platoon leaders. He was married, and so was she. When it came time for her officer evaluation report, he tried to give her a really bad one. This has obviously made her really

mad, so she went and told the Battalion Commander that him and her were having a relationship together. She got put into another company, while he was relieved and put out of the army. Once again, this shows that some leaders live by the saying do as I say, not as I do.

A brigade CSM from Ft. Leonard Wood received numerous DUI's while driving off Post, we would just refer to him as drunk Willie. I can tell you that moral was not too high in that brigade. Within our battalion, when a Soldier or NCO received a DUI/DWI they would receive an Article 15 and lose rank and the money that went along with it, not to mention the extra duty. Now I am not saying that these Soldiers and NCOs should go unpunished, but how can the senior leadership allow this CSM to continue to get himself into these situations and nothing happen to him, but continue to punish these Soldiers and NCOs.

Lets look at President Bill Clinton and Monica Lewinski. Our commander in chief had an affair on his wife. We in the military would have gotten into a lot of trouble and punished under the UCMJ for adultery. Here the President is supposed to set the example for all the Armed Services let alone the United States. I guess he thought it would be all right for him but not for the rest of the United States people.

Lets talk about Sergeant Major of the Army McKinney, why would he think it's alright to sexually harass some ladies but it would not be alright for the rest of the Army Soldiers? It make me wonder how long this stuff has been going on and how do we truly educate the Soldiers that this is bad leadership. I bet each student here at USASMA could give an example of at least one of their past leaders who practiced the old saying "Do as I say not as I do."

While in Germany, a new Battalion Commander took over; I will call him LTC T., and in his incoming speech, he stated that he would not tolerate his Soldiers causing trouble and getting DUI's, as this was a Military Police Battalion. Well needless to say, a bunch of the Soldiers and NCOs got into trouble and most of the trouble was from drinking and driving. He told the company commanders that he would issue the article 15's for all alcohol related offenses within the Battalion. He issued out numerous while he was in command for the enlisted Soldiers. His property book office, a CW2, received a DUI while the CW2 was clearing, and the Battalion Commander sort of swept it under the rug as to say. The BN CDR, being in charge of the Soldiers pulling patrol, made sure that this DUI failed to hit the blotter report. This way it kept the Brigade Commander and the 21st TSC commander from finding out. Well the CW2 was allowed to PCS without getting any trouble what so ever. The next time a Soldier came to the BN Commander to receive an Article 15 for DUI, the BN CSM, recommended that the Soldier have everything suspended from the ART15, and the BN CDR accused the CSM of not supporting him and the good order and discipline of the unit. I guess it was all right for the officers to get into trouble but not the enlisted Soldier. The whole time I knew this commander, he was all about his officers and the enlisted Soldiers were just trouble waiting to happen. Now that last part is just the opinion of most of the enlisted Soldiers that I spoke with, I never ask the Battalion commander this directly.

In summary, please since we are senior enlisted Soldiers, remember the good leaders and the bad, take the good examples and the bad, and don't be one of the leaders that live by " Do as I say and not as I do.