

Ethics

By Master sergeant David Wilson

Ethics: The whole field of moral, duties, values, and virtues- -our attempts to order human conduct towards the right and wrong. We as senior leaders must be the role model for our Soldiers to follow. Staying Physically fit is important we lead from the front not the rear. I some time find hard to get in the morning to do physical training, but I get up and conduct PT. Some where our enemies are training to hard to stay in shape, I must be harder than them . No Soldier will respect an out shape leader.

Discipline is necessary, do what is right. Soldiers look for a discipline leader. Before I do any thing; I ask my self is this I expect the soldiers to do. For example:

As operation SGM I was there for all foot marches. I did not have the S-3 shop Noncommissioned officers and Soldiers go; I ensured the officers and myself went too. No one respect a do as I say not as do leader.

As a leader I ensured my NCOs did the same thing. I found a Staff Sergeant who sent his squad on a five mile run and didn't go with them. I made the NCO run five mile with me at 1800. This NCO was also consoled on his poor example of leadership.

Treat all with dignity and respect! I had a know racialist in my company; I force myself to treat him no different than any other Soldier. HE was taken to education class every afternoon.

Maintenance everyone must do it. Rank makes no difference, everyone must care for equipment. I would never have a Soldier draw out or turn in my weapon. I also clean my own weapon. Officer and NCOs were down in the motor pool supervising their men. I did not leave maintenance just to the executive officer I cross talk with him on maintenance issues daily. I felt it was wrong to sit back say the XO has it. It is my job to ensure our equipment is ready for war.

Uniform policy are enforce, my uniform was neat I didn't like leaders whom like dirty bags. My field gear was clean with in three days of returning from the field. If a Soldier made a on the spot correction on my uniform, I made it a point to say thanks. It shows poor ethics to get upset with the Soldier.

Do what is right even when no one is looking. This is the right thing to do and will keep you, our army out of trouble. During a firefight, enemy soldiers give up. I didn't miss treat them. Every thing in me said hit the s.o.b but I didn't. I enforce this standard in training all the time. It saddens me to see some of our Soldier do this in the war today. Besides it strengthen our enemy cause. We as American Soldiers are better than this. We do not need to sink to that level.

Integrity is non- negotiable only you can destroy your integrity. I make it a point not to lie, and I expect others to do the same. Once you lie you lose every thing. Be up front in dealing with one and another. Our lives depend on the truth. It is important not to over inflate our self. The enemy will let you know the truth. After Action Review all training and retrain what went wrong. Being prepare is the only way to come home from combat alive.

Loyalty to your wife and unit. Never cheat on your wife and do not accept those who do.

A person that will betray the sanctity of marriage is worthless and cannot be trusted. I would never cheat on my wife and will not accept any one who do. What kind of person will broke a bond with the closes person in their live. Too many times, I have seen disloyal Soldiers stab their leaders in the back, under minding what was put out. If you have a problem talk to the leader that issue the order, not to other soldiers. Never say the 1SG said to do this, take ownership of the order and get it done. I have not always like the orders from those in my chain of command but I follow them. If I had any questions, I ask my leader.

“Be Courageous!” Face your fears, your Soldiers need brave leaders. In combat your Soldiers Will look to you for guideous; I watch with great pride as my Soldiers fought vastly out number in 1993. Even while wounded, I lead my Soldiers out of that firefight. As senior leader we must be ethical in all we say and do.