

# **OUTSTANDING TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT TECHNICAL SKILLS NATIONAL PROGRAMME**

**2. Ethics in Health Social Care - Animation Resource**

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Managed by



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## How to use

This is a good introduction to any units on ethics and to be used before learners start their work experience. It should be used in conjunction with the case studies.



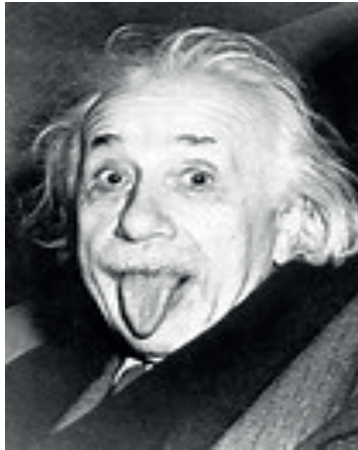
## Ethics

The branch of philosophy dealing with values relating to human conduct, with respect to the 'rightness' and 'wrongness' of certain actions and to the 'goodness' and 'badness' of the motives and ends of such actions.

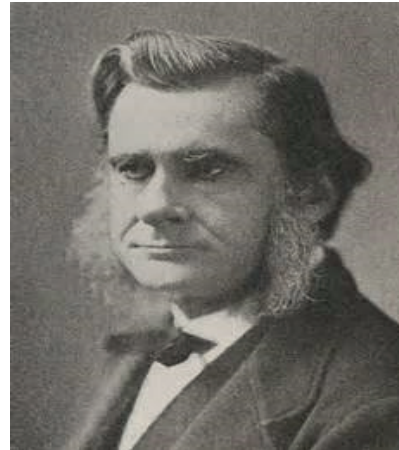
- Morals: principles or rules of right conduct or the distinction between right and wrong
- "Ethics is knowing the difference between what you have a right to do and what is right to do." *Potter Stewart*



“Unthinking respect for authority is the greatest enemy of truth.” *Albert Einstein*



“Every great advance in natural knowledge has involved the absolute rejection of authority.” *Thomas Huxley*



## Codes of practice

- Codes provide a clear guide for all those who work in social work, setting out the standards of practice and conduct workers and their employers should meet
- They are a critical part of regulating the workforce and helping to improve levels of professionalism and public protection.

### Why are they important?

- The codes play a key part in regulating the social care workforce and in helping to improve levels of public protection. Adherence to the codes is a condition of joining the Social Care Register
- Social workers who breach the codes can be removed from the register, while employers who break them can face sanctions.

### What do you do with them?

- Whether you are a social worker or a social care employer you need to comply with the codes
- Individual social care workers should take personal responsibility for ensuring they adhere to the Code of Practice for Social Care Workers. There is nothing in them that cannot be put into practice straight away.

## Individual rights

- The right to be respected: Listening to what someone has to say, showing patience and take into account what their views are
- Allowed privacy: Their treatment and care should be kept private, their dignity will be respected whilst receiving treatment
- Protected from danger or harm: Health and safety policies should be in effect.
- Allowed access to personal information: Freedom of information Act means that you are entitled to see data stored about yourself
- Preferred method of communication: Take account of 1st language, different formats available, maybe ask family members to help
- Cared for in a way that meets their needs and takes account of their choices: Each individual is different and will have specific care needs.

## Effects of discriminatory practices

- What are the consequences of discriminating against people?

### Disempowerment

- Not letting people make decisions for themselves or giving them any way of fighting discrimination
- This could mean 'telling' a patient how they will be treated, what they will eat and how they will spend their time without any input from themselves.

### Low-self esteem

- Not feeling that you have any worth and are not good at anything
- Constantly being told or made to feel useless or stupid will result in a loss of confidence and self esteem.

### Marginalisation

- Being pushed to the sidelines
- In other words you are not made to feel like you are important or part of a group
- "Everyone else here eats meat apart from you...why do you have to be so different"?