

Difference Between Ethics and Values

What Are Values?

Values are the acknowledgement between wrong and right, it has an association with the thinking process and perception of an individual. These values play an instrumental role in making decisions. The values are entrenched in the personal beliefs and faith of individuals. The numerous identities of an individual such as religious, family, cultural, and community cumulatively construct the values of an individual.

Definition Of Ethics

An array of moral principles that judge human actions and intent to be right or wrong constitutes ethics in a community. It is renowned as “**moral philosophy**”. The actions are weighed in accordance with the moral principles catering to the answer of the distinction between right and wrong. There are major three branches of ethics that are Metaethics, Normative Ethics, and Applied Ethics. It finds space in all organizations and workspaces but differs in accordance with each one's principles.

Major Difference Between Ethics and Values

The terms **ethics** and **values** are often mistaken for one another. However, both these terms - though a part of social sciences - are completely different from each other. While ethics denote the moral principles of society at large, values are more personal and vary between individuals. Some of the key differences between values and ethics are presented here in table-

| Ethics Vs Values | | |
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| SL. No. | Ethics | Values |

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| 1. | A prevalent system of moral principles within the society at large or within a specific community is known as ethics. | Values are intrinsically associated with a person's individual thought process. A person's ability to distinguish between right and wrong is known as value. |
| 2. | Ethics is associated with a more professional setup. | Values are associated with a person's own individual or personal beliefs. |
| 3. | Ethics can be further segregated into three major types - Meta-Ethics, Normative Ethics, and Applied Ethics. It is taught as a study of moral philosophy. | The major types of values seen in a person are religious, social, political, moral, and aesthetic. |
| 4. | Although ethics is consistent and present in all types of professional spaces, the ethics between two different professional setups or companies may be completely different from one another. | Values vary from person to person. Sometimes people belonging to the same family or unit may exhibit different value systems altogether. |
| 5. | Principles of ethics are defined by various industries, organizations, and institutions. Various professions may have different types of ethics. For example, the ethics followed by individuals in the medical profession may be different from those involved in logistics. | Various identities - religious, cultural, family, and community - go on to define a person's own individual values. Their profession does not generally have any effect on values. |
| 6. | In many situations, ethics may come across as constraints. Sometimes an action needed to be taken by a professional may not go well with the person's values, thus, creating a great conflict. However, in most cases, the ethics of a profession don't tend to be stumbling blocks to a person. | Sometimes values can act as a catalyst for the professional and personal growth of an individual. It could provide the required motivation to scale up in life and profession. |