

# Stages of Ethical Development

Stages	Description
Stage 1: Self-awareness	Develop an awareness of one's personal worldview and the values that undergird that perspective
Stage 2: Self-reflection	Use self-reflection skills to examine the implications of and consequences of one's personal worldview on professional work
Stage 3: Understanding and applying the <i>Code of Ethics</i> within a professional knowledge base	Thoroughly examine the <i>Code of ethics for Seventh-day Adventists Educator</i> (World Education Directors Consultation, 1997) to understand its meaning, historically and currently, as the basis for defining values and principles like diversity, social justice, self-determination, respect for human dignity, and other core elements articulated in the profession's literature
Stage 4: Comparing personal worldview with professional Code	Engage in a process of examining discrepancies between the <i>Code of Ethics</i> and one's personal worldview
Stage 5: Professional Decision Making	Make decisions about what needs to be done to remain faithful to the <i>Code of Ethics</i> (Decisions in practice should never be made solely based on one's personal worldview.)
Stage 6: Professional Ethical Action	Take action and monitor conformity to the <i>Code of Ethics</i>

Based on the Model for Examining Personal Worldviews and the National Association of Social Workers *Code of Ethics* (Spano & Koenig, 2008)

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