



Moral Dimensions of Action in Combat

TASK: Define and discuss the importance of correct moral decision making in combat and crisis.

CONDITIONS: Given an environment that fosters learning, discuss the topic on how correct moral decision making in combat and crisis benefits Soldiers.

STANDARDS: Understand the impact correct moral actions have on the moral, ethical, and spiritual resilience of the Soldier and the unit.

REFERENCE(S): AR 600-20; FM 1-05; FM 27-10; Just War Theory.



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Every Soldier is a tactical representative of the Nation and the Army Values. If the wrong thing is or has been done, tell someone who will take action, starting at the lowest level of your command.

Keep going up the Chain of Command until you get results. If necessary go outside the Chain of Command.

When the wrong thing is done and not addressed it can lead to greater incidence of PTSD and suicides.

Never take part in, ignore, nor condone behavior which you will have to explain to your God or others when you go home or that you cannot in good conscience live with.



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- Do no harm
- Do good
- Do the hard thing right , ensure right thing gets done
- Provide a calm, cool, professional demeanor
- Adhere to the Army Values
- Provide a safe place for those morally injured to talk and heal
- Failure to do the right thing leads to loss of innocence



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SCENARIO

A Soldier comes to you and shares that the Platoon Leader and Platoon Sergeant are beating detainees to get the detainees to confess.

What do you do?

Who do you tell?

What are the implications for not taking action?

What Army Values are at play?