Ethical Issues In Aviation

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Edited by Elizabeth A. Hoppe

Synopsis

Applied ethics has been gaining wide attention in a variety of curriculums, and there is growing awareness of the need for ethical training in general. Well-publicized ethical problems such as the Challenger disaster, the Ford Pinto case and the collapse of corporations such as Enron have highlighted the need to rethink the role of ethics in the workplace. The concept of applied ethics originated in medicine with a groundbreaking book published in 1979. Business ethics books began to appear in the 1980s, with engineering ethics following in the 1990s. This volume now opens up a new area of applied ethics, comprehensively addressing the ethical issues confronting the civil aviation industry.Aviation is unique in two major ways: firstly it has a long history of government regulations, and secondly its primary focus is the safety of its passengers and crew. For decades commercial aviation was viewed in the same manner as public utilities, and thus it was highly regulated by the government. Since the Deregulation Act of 1978, aviation has been viewed as any other business while other experts continue to believe that the sudden switch to deregulation has caused problems, especially since many airlines were unprepared for the change. Ethical Issues in Aviation focuses on current concerns and trends, to reflect the changes that have occurred in this deregulated era.The book provides the reader with an overview of the major themes in civil aviation ethics. It begins with theoretical frameworks, followed by sections on the business side of aviation, employee responsibility, diversity in aviation, ground issues regarding airports, air traffic control and security, as well as health and the environment. The contributors to the volume include both academics doing research in the field as well as professionals who provide accounts of the ethical situations that arise in the workplace.

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Customer Reviews

Written ByProfessor WattersonI was delighted to have the opportunity to read "ETHICAL ISSUES IN AVIATION". I particularly enjoyed reading chapter #16, written by Dr. Paul Foster. I was intrigued, and it prompted me to endeavor to ascertain my own opinion regarding racial and gender discrimination in the workplace, and its correlation to the term "Ethics".In my opinion, the definition of "ethical behavior" is to display honesty, decency, moral principles, and simply "to do the right thing". However, from an unbiased perspective, I questioned whether or not racial and gender discrimination, and a system that permits this intolerance to become a factor in determining which individuals will be hired, is in fact an ethical issue?Reading this chapter has enabled me to formulate my personal resolution that, ethically, the hiring selection process should definitely be based on the employment applicants' qualifications. Racial and gender discrimination within the field of aviation is not only prohibited by federal law, but it is most definitely an unethical practice.From my perspective as an educator, this book should not only be utilized in Aviation related courses, but it is a suitable reference for a variety of class settings, especially those in which ethical issues are addressed.

Author did a good job of presenting some of the issues present in the aviation industry. I liked the compilation of issues from a variety of sources.

I would cringe in the past when I purchased upper division aviation text books. But this one was an easy read.

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