

Values Harvard Case Solution & Analysis

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What is "Normal"?

Normal:

1. conforming to the standard or the common type; usual; not abnormal; regular; natural.
2. serving to establish a standard

What's wrong with this definition?
Is is appropriate to use this term?

Violation of Norms is NOT always Bad...



Social Change is a Process
Social change starts a process of evolution, whereby society, culture, and the norms and values, technology, or knowledge are transformed. It is a change in the behavior or ways of thinking. What is change for the better people because more free and equal. When a change for the worse, people become oppressed.

Examples of "positive" social changes/transformations include:

- Slavery (Abolition)
- Civil Rights
- Abolition of Slavery
- Women's Rights

What are Norms?

Norms:

- Informal laws that govern the behavior of a society. Though these norms are informal they can be enforced formally (sanctions) and informally (non-verbal) sanctions.
- What is "norms" depends on the culture and the themselves in. "subcultures" can also have their own norms.
- Norms create:
 - Conformity
 - Socialization
 - Order and stability
- Violated norms can also create:
 - "Inconformity" against anything "anomalous"
 - "Disparities" between social groups

What are Values?

Values:

- Core and end in themselves in groups or individuals (ethics, principles)
- Guide behavior and beliefs
- Can be taught or learned, or can be innate
- Values are often expressed in words, but not always
- Why do they express and adhere to a value?
- An example of a value in our society would be: "equal rights for all"

What are some values?




Cultural Differences

Individualistic: A world view that focuses on...
- independence and autonomy
- stresses personal rights, goals, and needs
Examples of this type of society:

Collectivistic: A world view that stresses...
- connectedness to family, and community
- the maintaining of goals, norms, harmony with others, and beliefs of the group
Examples of this type of society...

What about within societies; can there be differences within subcultures?



Violation of Norms

Deviance:

- Actions that go against societal norms (either formal or informal)

Delinquency:

- The "legal" term for those who break the law (juveniles)

Deviance and delinquency are punishable but the punishment depends on the severity

- Jail
- Ostracism/Shunning
- Community Service
- Others????

What if you entrusted a friend with a secret and they violated the "norm" of trust between friends? (What should their punishment be?)

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Violation of Norms is NOT always Bad...

social change is a process of evolution, whereby society, culture, and its norms and values, technology, or knowledge are transformed. It is a change that is brought about by people because of their own and social. When a change for the better, people become accepted.

Examples of "positive" social changes/innovations may include:

- Voting 2012
- LGBT rights
- Abortion rights
- Women's rights

What are Norms?

Norms: "informal laws that govern the behavior of a society. Though these norms are informal they can be enforced formally (sanctions) and informally (non-verbal) sanctions."

- What is "norms"? depends on the culture and the themselves in. "subcultures can also have their own norms."
- Norms create:
 - Conformity
 - Socialization
 - Roles and Values
- Violated norms can also result:
 - "interactions against anything "anomalous"
 - "disparities between social groups"

What are the key elements to a culture? (Hofstede)

- Individualism vs. Collectivism
- Power Distance
- Masculinity vs. Femininity
- Uncertainty Avoidance
- Long-term vs. Short-term Orientation
- Confucian Dynamism

What are values?

Values:

- are all well for the objective in groups or individuals (ethics, pros, cons, etc.)
- include subjective attitudes and beliefs about what is good or bad, right or wrong, and desired results.
- Values are often expressed in words like:
 - Honesty
 - Who is given respect and admiration in a society?
- An example of a value in our society would be:
 - Equal rights for gay

What are some values?

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What are Norms?

Norms:

- Informal laws that govern the behaviours of a society. Though these norms are informal they can be enforced formally (sanctions) and informally (non-verbal actions).
- What is "normal" depends on the culture one finds themselves in. *Subcultures can also have their own norms.
- Norms create:
 - Conformity!
 - Socialization
 - Roles and ideals
- Unfortunately norms can also create...
 - Discrimination against anything "abnormal"
 - Disparities between social groups



What are Values?

Values:

- Vary and can be subjective to groups or individuals (families, peers, society)
- Values influence attitudes and behaviours
- Include such things as morals, ethics, and social values
- Values are often expressed in society by:
 - Awards
 - Who is given respect and attention in a society
- An example of a value in our society would be:
 - Equal rights for all!!

What are some others?



Why are they Important to society?

Norms and values are important because they:

- Regulate the behaviours within society (informally and formally)
- Norms and values are widely adopted by members of a society as acceptable standards to live/strive for
 - They define acceptable and non-acceptable actions
- Values provide a set of ideals for individuals to strive towards (materialistic, empathetic, kindness etc...)
- Create a sense of community
 - a sense of close connection and shared purpose that unites a person with others in a group



Do you know your rights?

The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms represents our norms and values...

They are formed from individual morals and religious influences of the time. This can sometimes create problems because society continuously changes and with it so do the values of our people.

Everyone has the following fundamental freedoms:

- Freedom of conscience and religion
- Freedom of assembly
- Freedom of expression
- Freedom of association

The most important point I find is:

Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of the person and the right not to be deprived thereof except in accordance with the principles of fundamental justice.

From this document we get a sense of Canadian Values:
Equality, Freedom, Life, Culture & Religion, Education etc...

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