**Student 1**

Chapter 6 interested me because it talked about the direct involvement of the government concerning ethics with companies. I love that certain policies were put into place for the protection of not only the employees, but the company as a whole as well. Honestly if companies are being shut down do to unethical practices, that's less tax revenue for the government.

Chapter 7 also caught my attention. I had no idea that whistle-blowing was an official term that has demanded the attention of organizations everywhere. I also did not know that an incentive is established for those whistle-blowers who think their organization is practicing something unethical in actual funds gained from shutting down these practices. It made me think of the various situations in a company I worked for for 5 years where some practices I felt were either unfair to me as an employee, or unfair to the customer. One situation I had was the use of our printing warehouses who could do large customer orders for cheaper for the customer, but also at no cost for the branch the order was placed at. A manager of mine (who was brand new to the position) instructed us to not use this service because she would rather keep up with purchasing supplies  and get more funds for the branch than send anything off to our production center, no matter how large the order. This meant the customers were being unnecessarily overcharged and put more work on us employees. The warehouses are put in place for the sole reason of lifting these large quantity order burdens off our shoulders for a branch that may only employee a total of 4-5 people.

Chapter 8 was interesting as it talked about technology within the workplace. When we as employees sign our documents and accept a position, that agreement often comes with policies that are set in place to protect the company and you, if you choose to follow them. As someone who works a deskjob, I often use my computer to listen to music when it's too early to call my students for any matter. However, all employees sign that they will not use company equipment for personal use, yet everyone does it. It made me rethink what I use my technology for.

**Student 2**

The effective running of any business in current societies mandates adequate adherence to the established code of ethics within individual industries in the economy. The code of ethics ensures that companies operate in a manner that does not repulse members of the community. Besides, these sets of ethics guarantee that businesses honor their duty to the community, such as environmental conservation and the provision of relevant and acceptable products and services in societies. In the book ''Business Ethics Now 5th Edition'' by Dr. Andrew W. Ghillyer (2017), addresses the concepts surrounding the formulation, implementation, and significance of code of ethics in the regulation of business operations within economies.

In chapter 6 of the book, Ghillyer focusses on the role of the government in regulating business operations in the community. The government has a primary responsibility of ensuring that the business conducts itself in a manner that promotes social responsibilities. By doing so, a company can become beneficial elements within societies. Besides, the government makes sure that businesses are accountable for their actions within economies, thus promoting ethical conduct among organizations. In chapter 7, the author illustrates the importance of speaking out about vices within organizations. This is shown by highlighting the significance of whistleblowing exercises in business. The act of reporting illegal actions within companies is essential since it enables executives to identify loopholes in organizations that promote unethical conduct.

In chapter 8, the author illustrates the importance of ethics and technology within businesses. The advancement in technology has led a majority of companies to face ethical dilemmas that sometimes threaten the effective running of an organization. From this chapter, I learned that the utilization of technology within organizations should ensure that moral principles are followed. Besides, the use of technology can limit a company's adequate adherence to its social responsibilities within societies. A business needs to ascertain that the technology being assimilated is sufficient and does promote ethical practices.

Student 3

The discussion in Chapter 6 of US regulations on ethical business practices was great information for me. As businesses grow ever larger, it is easy for them to forget that real flesh-and-blood people are on the other side of profit decisions. Even employees that are just one of many become the proverbial interchangeable cog on the wheel. The goals of the laws in this chapter are worthy ones and needed, but it is impossible to legislate ethical behavior. Clear and substantial consequences go a long way, but there will always be unethical people who will obey just enough to avoid penalties while never embracing the higher calling of simply being good to others. I personally feel that government needs to be less friendly with business and maintain an objective, “referee” position in order to allow and encourage economic growth while curbing the worst extremes of profit-above-people behavior.

It is surprising to me that it took until 2002 for whistleblowers in the private sector to be granted legal protections from retaliation.  Laws can only go so far though, and retaliation can be sneaky and hard to prove. There are a million ways to make a situation untenable while still towing a line of legal compliance. The whistleblower must be a person with deep convictions to be willing to risk the unknown. The statistics at the end of Chapter 7 are rather dismal. Lost job, demotion, sued, mental and physical distress, addiction, losing a home, divorce, suicide and bankruptcy: these were outcomes listed in the survey. It takes a special person to hold on to the ethical high ground knowing that there will be a personal cost. Yet, what choice does a person have? How can you live with yourself if you know that others (maybe thousands or millions) are being harmed and you do nothing? I haven’t faced that situation. I hope I would be brave enough to live out my convictions.

The chapter on Ethics and Technology could have been a lot longer. There are so many thoughts to chase on this topic. Technology is developing and changing so quickly that ethics can never hope to keep pace.  In the whole of human existence, it is easier to monitor all manner of activity and collect incalculable amounts of data that then becomes so easy to exploit. In 2019, to access the conveniences of GPS, Venmo and “backing up to the cloud,” we relinquish our location, our finances and our info and photos to a faceless corporation that we hope is doing a good job of protecting it. The Cambridge Analytica scandal associated with the 2016 election is fascinating and disturbing. If you haven’t watched the Netflix document “The Great Hack”, do it; it is an amazing story of brilliant people using all Facebook data to reverse engineer behavior in millions of people. It really isn’t possible to measure how far the effects go, but it is obvious that they were getting results. The reluctant whistleblower who is featured in the documentary was slow to go public. Even when she gives damning testimony, she never seems to fully acknowledge the costs to millions of people and the public trust.