

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT - LAW 2313

ASSIGNMENT

Description:

You are to choose one of the videos on reserve in the library to serve as the fact scenario for your assignment. The choices are:

- Class Action (Gene Hackman)
- Liar, Liar (Jim Carrey)
- The Verdict (Paul Newman)

From the video you select, choose an action by a lawyer that you want to discuss. The action should be sufficiently developed in the video to enable you to identify one or more significant ethical issues.

In your assignment, you should:

1. Describe the action you have chosen to discuss with sufficient detail to allow you to flesh out the arguments you will make in your paper.
2. Identify the ethical issues raised by the action.
3. Analyse the action in light of each of the alternative ethical frameworks we have discussed in class (Dolovich, Ellman, Fried, Graham and Tanovich).
4. Articulate the personal ethical framework that you will bring to the practice of law. It can be derived from one of the frameworks we have discussed in class or it can be your own product.
5. Explain your reasoning in adopting your personal ethical framework, including your reasons for not adopting (or modifying) the frameworks referred to above.
6. Apply your framework to the action you have chosen to discuss from the video. What would you have done and why?

Evaluation:

The assignment will be evaluated as follows:

10% organization, clarity and writing quality

45% discussion and analysis of points 1 through 3

45% discussion and analysis of points 4 through 6

Please note, you will not be evaluated on the “correctness” (morally or otherwise) of your chosen ethical framework but, rather, on the quality of your reasoning in support of that ethical framework and the quality of your analysis in applying your ethical framework to the fact situation.

Constraints:

This is a “closed” assignment. You are required only to use the articles identified above. You must still fully cite all ideas that are not your own.

The assignment shall be a maximum of 12 pages, single-sided, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman or equivalent type with 1 inch margins. I will not read beyond the 12 pages.

The assignment is due to the General Office by noon on Thursday, October 11, 2007. Out of a total possible mark of 100, 5 marks per day will be deducted for lateness.

Your paper should have no information on it that would permit you to be identified personally. When you hand-in your paper to the General Office, it will be assigned a number for the purposes of marking.