5-3-1 Assignment Week 8: Empirical Judgments in Ethical Decisions

QUESTIONS

1. Whether a selection of data, interpretation of data, or impressionistic rendition of a situation, _____plays a crucial role in _____.
2. What are three ways Christians respond to war?
3. What criteria must be met for a war to be considered just?
4. Name an environmental issue of our time?
5. According to Talcott Parsons there are two ways in which objectivity is lost in ideological thinking. What are they?

ANSWERS

1. Empirical judgments; moral decisions. (pg. 175)
2. First, pacifism, a rejection of participation in violence; holy war, zealous participation without a moral compass and with divine blessings; and just war an eclectic involvement that seeks to place moral parameters around warfare. (pg. 175)
3. A war is just when it is the last resort and the idea is that the good gained by fighting must outweigh the evil that is constant and allowed within the conflict. (pg.176)
4. Global warming (pg. 177)
5. 6. A selectivity in the issues treated and distortion of the problems and issues treated. (pg. 182)

TERMS

1. Folkways – learned behavior that stems from and organizes casual interactions. They involve things like food, eating habits, and fashion style. (pg. 180)
2. Mores – traditions passed on from generation to generation, however, they are related to critical issues and bear a feeling of moral authority by exemplifying a feeling of obligation. (pg. 180)
3. Vested Interest – benefit received from existing arrangements in society or within an institution. It influences values goals and empirical judgments. (pg.183)

SUMMARY

The state of moral judgment arises from a combination of beliefs and emotions about morality. Empirical judgment focuses on action and judgment. In empirical knowledge, three categories can be distinguished: (a) knowledge from direct observation, (b) knowledge inferred deductively from observations, and (c) knowledge inferred non-deductively from observations, including knowledge derived by induction and inference to the best explanation.