Ethical Dilemma Paper

No late papers are accepted!

See example of Ethical Dilemma Paper on the website.

Description

A three page, typewritten, double-spaced paper, minimum of two references cited (excluding the instructor and required texts) and additional bibliography/reference page. References must be sources other than textbooks used in this nursing program, and at least one reference MUST be a web site. Please include a simple cover sheet with your name in the upper right hand corner. You must also attach the grading Rubric as the last page. Email to instructor by due date/time, OR staple hard copy pages together in left upper corner and turn in on due date (please do not submit it in a file, envelope, or fancy folder).

1. Choose one of the ethical dilemmas on the website; OR you may develop your own dilemma but you must write it up and submit it to the instructor for approval at least 2 weeks prior to the paper’s due date.

2. Identify the ethical problem. Briefly reconstruct the scenario to reflect the salient points of the ethical dilemma, weeding out information that does not apply to the ethics of the situation.

3. Identify the ethical principles involved. Define all which apply to your case. State exactly why each principle pertains to the case. Be specific.

4. List all possible courses of action, e.g. “turn the patient,” “call a code,” “run and hide,” etc. Brainstorm and write down all the interventions you can dream up, whether or not you think you would actually choose to actually do them.

5. Describe the course of action you decide upon (your solution to the ethical dilemma). Describe your rationale for choosing this decision and include a detailed discussion of all aspects of the decision (many solutions will have multiple parts or may consist of a combination of the possible solutions mentioned in the third section of the paper). Additionally, discuss how the unique factors of your case come into play in your decision-making process.

6. Identify and describe cultural influences which shaped your decision (your culture if a culture is not mentioned in the scenario).

7. A minimum of two references (excluding the instructor and DAC nursing program textbooks) must be cited and referenced. At least one reference must be a web site (it is acceptable if both references are web sites). A dictionary, wikipedia, or encyclopedia is not an acceptable reference for a scholarly paper. You may cite references via footnotes*, or within text like this (Banson, 2012, p.4). A web site should be cited via a footnote.

Grading

See the Rubric for point value and required elements. Grading is not made based on your decision; it is rather on your process of arriving at the decision and discussion of how the ethical principles and culture apply to your case.

An “A” paper must have correct grammar, spelling, format, logical argument construction, and accurately cited references.

A minimum of 5 points will be deducted for:

- Incorrect grammar, spelling, format, or reference citation.
- Paper length short of or exceeding 3 pages by 6 or more lines.