

How do we know what is
ethical?

The Eight Key Questions (8KQ) by , James Madison University

Ethical Reasoning in Action, James Madison University

James Madison University (JMU). 2020. 8KQ Handbook.

<https://www.jmu.edu/ethicalreasoning/Docs/8KQ-Handbook-Web.pdf>

James Madison University (JMU). 2020. The Eight Key Questions (8KQ).

<https://www.jmu.edu/ethicalreasoning/8-key-questions.shtml>

Eight Key Questions

- Fairness
 - How can I act equitably and balance legitimate interests?
- Outcomes
 - What achieves the best short- and long-term outcomes for me and all others?
- Responsibilities
 - What duties and/or obligations apply?
- Character
 - What action best reflects who I am and the person I want to become?

Eight Key Questions Continued

- Liberty
 - How does respect for freedom, personal autonomy, or consent apply?
- Empathy
 - What would I do if I cared deeply about those involved?
- Authority
 - What do legitimate authorities (e.g. experts, law, my religion/god) expect of me?
- Rights
 - What rights (e.g. innate, legal, social) apply?