

VALUES BASED DECISION MAKING

Making Good Decisions that Last!

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JUSTICE

Public Health Practice Ethics

Before:
Public Good → Action → Ethical Good

Not every action taken in the public good is ethical.

800% immunization rate
they fiddled with the denominator

perverse incentive!

ACCOUNTABILITY
a management responsibility

Consider Ethics EXPLICITLY in planning the PROGRAM



VALUES

Show Solidarity with the Community

FAIRNESS

Do people feel and see it?

TRANSPARENCY

BENEFICENCE

Does it do good?

Non-Maleficence

Does it do harm?

Consider each Value

All ethical decisions have a number of answers

— does the issue make people uncomfortable?

SCIENCE-BASED

if nobody knows, then generate the science

ACCOUNTABILITY

EFFECTIVENESS

EFFICIENCY

INCLUSIVENESS

Bring in the Stakeholders—even if not everyone will be happy

INTEGRITY

- Courage
- Honesty
- Faithfulness

... So people can RESPECT the decision and the person who made it.

... decisions have Integrity and coherence too!

DATA & EVIDENCE may not be as important as **How**... how do you decide between two "RIGHTS"?

MORE THAN what's LEGAL!

VALUE: anything that matters to someone

ETHICAL: right good and honorable in conduct and character

— give sufficient Reasons

COMPETING GOODS

every decision has a downside



1. CLARIFY

Perspectives

- ask QUESTIONS "First TAKE"
- Share PERSPECTIVES

sets an example? Informs decision

"Point of view"

Explanations help

Identify problems

2. COMPREHEND

all the Values at play

- Make a LIST
- Explain WHO will make the Decision

GO BEYOND The Words: "What does that look like?"

"my values" "your values"

Cost Effectiveness vs. Community Priority vs. Science

Build a new system or use the community structure?

Engage people

listen to their stories

Communicate effectively

3. COMMIT

to the Values that matter Most.

- Prioritize
- Decision Maker Summarize Value Priorities

"What is MOST IMPORTANT?"

"WHY?"

4. CHOOSE

the option that most closely follows the Values

- Which one aligns best with our Values
- What are the negative consequences

"Who will bear the Burden?"

TRANSPARENT? COHERENT? CONSISTENT?

"Who should hear about this? When? From whom?"

5. COMMUNICATE

to those with a NEED/RIGHT to know

- Clear Transparent Summary
- determine audience, timing & method of communication

How can we transparently communicate the reasons and the likely downside?"

CLARIFY

COMPREHEND

COMMIT

CHOOSE

COMMUNICATE



Polio Immunization in NIGERIA

A wicked problem!