

# 07 Social Justice and Business Ethics

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **Economics**  
Time Period: **Semester 1 & 2**  
Length: **3 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Standards

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	Multiple economic indicators are used to measure the health of an economy.
SOC.6.1.12.EconNE.9.a	Explain how economic indicators are used to evaluate the health of the economy (i.e., gross domestic product, the consumer price index, the national debt, and the trade deficit).
SOC.6.1.12.EconNE.9.b	Compare and contrast the causes and outcomes of the stock market crash in 1929 with other periods of economic instability.  Governments and financial institutions influence monetary and fiscal policies.
SOC.6.1.12.EconNE.9.c	Explain how government can adjust taxes, interest rates, and spending and use other policies to restore the country's economic health.
SOC.6.1.12.EconNE.9.d	Explain the interdependence of various parts of a market economy (i.e., private enterprise, government programs, and the Federal Reserve System).  There are multiple and complex causes and effects of historical events.
SOC.6.1.12.HistoryCC.9.a	Analyze how the actions and policies of the United States government contributed to the Great Depression.
SOC.6.2.12.EconGE.6.a	Evaluate efforts of governmental, non-governmental, and international organizations to address economic imbalances, social inequalities, climate change, health and/or illiteracy.
SOC.6.2.12.EconGE.6.b	Assess the role government monetary policies, central banks, international investment, and exchange rates play in maintaining stable regional and global economies.
SOC.6.2.12.EconGE.6.c	Relate the rise of the Internet and social media to global economy.
SOC.6.2.12.HistoryCC.6.a	Evaluate the impact of terrorist movements on governments, individuals and societies.
SOC.6.3.12.EconGE.1	Participate in a simulated meeting (e.g., President's Council, World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), research evidence from multiple sources about an economic problem (e.g., inflation, unemployment, deficit), and develop a plan of action.
SOC.6.1.12.A.16.c	Assess from various perspectives the effectiveness with which the United States government addresses economic issues that affect individuals, business, and/or other countries.
SOC.6.1.12.D.13.f	Relate the changing role of women in the labor force to changes in family structure.
SOC.6.1.12.D.14.d	Evaluate the extent to which women, minorities, individuals with gender preferences, and individuals with disabilities have met their goals of equality in the workplace, politics, and society.
SOC.6.3.12.CS1	Determine the credibility and value of information, while also considering context, point of view, and multiple perspectives.
SOC.6.3.12.CS4	Critically analyze information, make ethical judgments, and responsibly address controversial issues.
SOC.6.3.12.CS6	Make informed and reasoned decisions and accept responsibility for the consequences of their actions and/or inactions.

## **Enduring Understandings**

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1. Economic decision--making requires making choices about cost, benefits, and allocation of resources.
2. Economic systems can perpetuate or alleviate inequality.
3. Business ethics are determined by laws, policies, and procedures
4. Economic injustice is related to historical and contemporary issues, such as racial wealth disparities, gender wage gaps, and environmental inequality.

## **Essential Questions**

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1. How do basic economic concepts help explain real-world outcomes?
2. How does economic policy impact race and gender?
3. How can unethical decisions negatively impact a company's finances and reputation?

## **Knowledge and Skills**

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Students will be able to.....

- Analyze the impact of redlining in NJ communities
- Evaluate the causes and long-term effects of the racial wealth gap
- Examine local NJ affordable housing mandates
- Evaluate the relationship between property values, quality of schools, and economic success.
- Examine the laws regarding hiring and salary information
- Examine the pink tax and gender discrimination in the workplace
- Identify and discuss ethical decision making
- Understand the legal and financial consequences of unethical decision-making
- Examine case studies of companies found liable for violating business ethics

## **Transfer Goals**

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1. Students will be able to identify examples of ethical decision-making
2. Students will be able to analyze the impact of redlining and the racial wealth gap on community demographics

## **Resources**

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### **Supplemental Sources**

Teacher created slides on ethical decisions making

Various news articles

Additional Resources from WH databases, and articles connected to the content, including primary readings, historiography, and secondary sources.

### **Digital Sources**

Teacher Created Slides

Teacher created project

Crash Course Economics

Khan Academy

Investopedia

Frontline Money-Power and Wall Street

60 minutes Bernie Madoff Ponzi scheme

The collapse of cryptocurrency

NPR

Wall Street Journal

New York Times article on NY law requiring salary range listings

60 minutes interview with the U.S. Women's National soccer team about their lawsuit for equal pay

Star-Ledger articles on affordable housing mandates in Warren

CBS news video on the impact of redlining in Lyndhurst, NJ

PSB video on the racial wealth gap

## **Assessments**

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<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mKgdwpriGuRcVHIVCJUdBek7lih12Q0ckKSTC4TMUXs/edit>

Video analysis questions

Socratic Seminar discussions

Research assignment on financial and legal penalties for companies for unlawful and unethical actions

Analysis of the demographics of the community

Readings and questions on the racial wealth gap, pink tax, and gender inequality

## **Modifications**

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<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1XtUWvYfqhUpgTH9A995xZIQ64jsDH2LtXo1yBo7zxDw/edit>