To my parents
who helped me frame the original question:
Is it possible to be compassionate and spiritual
while being effective and ethical?

To my students
who journeyed with me through the
thickets of learning how to make
good ethical decisions.

In memory of Princess Juana, S.J.,
the first and only woman Jesuit.
This text is designed to be used with The GG Ethics Game®, a web-based simulation, which allows participants to assume leadership roles in a fictitious organization or company. The leadership teams must solve a set of problems which are typical of those facing people in various management structures in the United States and around the world. These choices have both intended and unintended financial and social consequences, mirroring the sometime randomness of our lives.

The thesis of this book and the accompanying simulation is that the vast majority of people want to become effective ethical agents. However, they are neither given the opportunity to examine their beliefs nor training in how to develop their ethical skills. The pedagogy of the simulation is based on educational research which demonstrates that with thought, training and practice, we can avoid ethical pitfalls and learn to make better decisions.

Research indicates that in order to become ethically mature, we need to integrate both ethical theory and ongoing practice in decision making. This text provides the theoretical base for a learner-focused approach to ethics and assists in practical mastery of concrete problems. The simulation is designed to imitate life by allowing participants to try unfamiliar decision making models and receive feedback – while having a bit of fun. As they work through a series of dilemmas, participants can increase both their self-knowledge as well as understanding of their community. In the process each may even acquire a bit more wisdom, a carefully honed sense of what behavior is appropriate in a given situation.

The simulation may be used as part of a traditional undergraduate or graduate ethics class or to facilitate a company’s leadership or ethics training. And, because individuals may not have an opportunity to participate in a formal setting, the CBPresents team is making the simulation available to individuals and informal social groups. For more information about the simulation or to register for a game, please go to our website, cbpresents.com.
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