



# **SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY**

**An Autonomous Institution  
Coimbatore – 35**

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NACC – UGC with 'A++ Grade

Approved by AICTE , New Delhi and Affiliated to Anna University , Chennai.

## **DEPARTMENT OF FOOD TECHNOLOGY**

# **19GET201 Professional Ethics and Human Values**

# **Kohlberg's theory**



# Kohlberg Theory



- Moral development in human being occurs over age and experience. Kohlberg suggested there are three levels of moral development, namely pre-conventional, conventional, and post-conventional, based on the type of reasoning and motivation of the individuals in response to moral questions.
- In the pre-conventional level, right conduct for an individual is regarded as whatever directly benefits oneself. At this level, individuals are motivated by obedience or the desire to avoid punishment or to satisfy their own needs or by the influence by power on them. All young children exhibit this tendency.
- At the conventional level, people respect the law and authority. Rules and norms of one's family or group or society is accepted, as the standard of morality. Individuals in this level want to please or satisfy, and get approval by others and to meet the expectations of the society, rather than their self interest (e.g., good boy, good girl). Loyalty is regarded as most important. Many adults do not go beyond this level.



## Kohlberg Theory.....



- At the post-conventional level, people are called autonomous.
- They think originally and want to live by universally good principles and welfare of others. They have no self-interest.
- They live by principled conscience. They follow the golden rule, 'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you'.
- They maintain moral integrity, self-respect and respect for others. Kohlberg believed that individuals could only progress through these stages, one stage at a time.
- He believed that most of the moral development occurs through social interactions.