



# **SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY**

(An Autonomous Institution)

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COIMBATORE-641 035, TAMIL NADU



**COURSE NAME : 23CAE707 – Ethics in Information Technology**

**I YEAR / II SEMESTER**

**UNIT – I**

**Topic: Ethical Theories**

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# Introduction

## The Three Ethical Decision Theories.

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- These theories explain how people make ethical decisions, and are guidelines to how individuals look at an ethical issue and make a decision.



# 1. Utilitarianism Theory

## Utilitarianism Theory

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- Considers the ethical issue and its relationship to individuals
- Makes a decision based on what benefits the most people
- "The greater good of the most people".



## 2. Pluralism Theory

### Pluralism Theory

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- ❑ Believes there are two options in an ethical issue, **right and wrong** decisions
- ❑ Pluralism stresses each person has a decision-making duty, must make ethical decisions based on that duty, and never break away from the decision-making duty.
- ❑ All decisions are clear-cut, black and white
- ❑ E.g. No one should ever lie.



## 3. Right – based Theory

### Rights-based Theory

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- All people have rights, and those rights must be respected
- Decisions are based on **respecting individual rights**
- E.g. you should never read a person's email because it violates a person's rights to privacy, and resist the temptation.



Thank  
You