

EXERCISE 1-B

Ethical Analysis

Read the following situations, then define the problem, and look for the outcomes in the six areas of ethical consideration.

RTNDA Code of Ethics that ALSO-- cite elements from the that may apply to each scenario

Situation 1

You are producer for a local television evening newscast. Your photographer returns to the station with video of a man who jumps from a downtown ledge in a suicide. Do you use the video in the story?

Situation 2

You are a radio reporter who returns from a news conference called by a local politician, who is a critic of the city's police chief. In speaking about the latest controversial incident, the politician critic, who is obnoxious himself, becomes confused and actually issues a strong statement supporting the police chief. You've been waiting a long time to get back at this politician. Is this the time to use the confused bite without perspective?

Situation 3

You are a television reporter covering a highly publicized corruption trial in your city. One of the defense lawyers slips you some sealed grand jury transcripts with new information about the case. Although the judge has made a specific issue of forbidding any revelations from the transcripts during the trial, you believe that the information is in the public interest. Do you use this new information in your coverage of the story?