

Assignment Mid-Term (Spring-2020)

Program: MBA-90

Course: Business Ethics

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Q1. Explain what dumping is, giving some examples. Does dumping raise any moral issues? What are they? What would an ethical relativist say about dumping?

Answer: Dumping is a term apparently coined by Mother Jones magazine to refer to the practice of exporting to other countries products that have been banned or declared hazardous in the United States.

Also Dumping is that manufacturers export their products with a cheaper market price to overseas countries that have not qualified the health safety standard. In this case, manufacturers sold young children pajamas which contained dangerous chemical Tris that could harm children's health. The second example is the manufacturers who sold 450,000 baby pacifiers that can cause death with choking and selling U.S. banned pesticides and drugs. Dumping has raised a moral issue that those manufacturers want to avoid the profit loss. Even though they know that those products can harm people's health and safety, they still sold to overseas and claimed that people should be free to make their own choice of their benefit. Second example, by simply changing the name of the product or by exporting the individual ingredients of a product to a plant in a foreign country. Once there, the ingredients can be reassembled and the product dumped. The United States does prohibit its pharmaceutical companies from exporting drugs banned in this country, but sidestepping the law is not difficult.

Yes Dumping raises moral issues because they are exporting banned products which are very dangerous for health.

Analogous arguments are used to defend the export of pesticides and other products declared dangerous for use in the United States. This reasoning has found a sympathetic ear in Washington, for it turns up in the "notification" system that regulates the export of banned or dangerous products overseas.

Q2. Speculate on why dumpers dump. Do you think they believe that what they are doing is morally permissible? How would you look at the situation if you were one of the manufacturers of Tris-impregnated pajamas?

Answer: Dumpers dump because they do not want to have profit loss. I think that what they did is not morally permissible. Dumpers dump products only for profit, or at least by the hope of avoiding financial losses.

If I were the manufacturer of Tris-impregnated pajamas, I would notice to the public that those products may have potential dangers. I stopped the manufacture of the banned products and quickly recall the products which were sold out, because this is immoral and unethical in my view.

Q3. If no law is broken, is there anything wrong with dumping? If so, when is it wrong and why? Do any moral considerations support dumping products overseas when this violates U.S. law?

Answer: It is not important that anything which is legal also have moral significance. There are many things which could be legally approved but if we look at the moral side of the story then the things come out to be totally different (immoral and unethical). If products are being dumped to avoid proper disposal rules or financial loss then it is morally wrong. If a product is dumped without the intent to make a profit and doesn't cause harm then it is morally right.

Q4. What moral difference, if any, does it make who is dumping, why they are doing it, where they are doing it, or what the product is?

Answer: It makes a great difference. If it is a company who is dumping chemicals because they are illegal in the US because it causes cancer, then it is morally wrong. If it is a company who has over produced winter coats and need to clear out their warehouse and they are dumping them to countries that need them, then it is morally right. If a company is dumping because they do not want to dispose of the product the proper way or wants to make a profit off it, then it is morally wrong. But if a company is dumping because they have over produced a safe product and are not looking for a profit, then it is morally right. If a company is dumping products to any country just to get rid of it, then it is morally wrong. If a company is dumping the safe products to third world countries that are in need of the product, then it is morally right. If the product can cause harm to the environment, animals, human, etc., then it is morally wrong. But if the product does not cause harm to anyone or anything, then it is morally right.

Q5. Critically assess the present notification system. Is it the right approach, or is it fundamentally flawed?

Answer: It is the right approach but it is fundamentally flawed if the other countries do not utilize the information. In theory the present notification system has great intention of doing the right thing. It is morally right to notify countries of the products that the US has banned use of. But it is fundamentally flawed if the other countries do not utilize the information that is given to them to notify their people of the dangers of using the product. Some of these countries do not have regulatory agencies to ensure that the products being brought into their country are safe. They do not have adequate testing facilities to test the products that companies want to bring into their country and they do not have well-staffed customs departments to ensure that the unsafe products are not brought into their country.

Critics of the system claim that notifying foreign health officials is virtually useless.

Q6. Putting aside the question of legality, what moral arguments can be given for and against dumping? What is your position on dumping, and what principles and values do you base it on? Should we have laws prohibiting more types of dumping?

Answer: I believe that the process of dumping goods to other countries should be restricted such that the utility of the action is considered. I stand for moral social responsibility such that the consequences should be acknowledged and prevented if it shows to endanger or risk the health and security of the majority.

Governments in poor countries can rarely establish health standards or even control imports into their countries. Indeed, most of the third-world countries where banned or dangerous products are dumped lack regulatory agencies, adequate testing facilities, and well-staffed customs departments. And we should have the laws which prohibiting these more types of dumping.

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