

# Ethics and college student life

## Chapter 6: Sex, Relationships, and Power

### Amazonlink:

[http://www.amazon.com/Ethics-College-Student-Kenneth-Strike/dp/0205173470/ref=sr\\_1\\_5?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1267405138&sr=8-5](http://www.amazon.com/Ethics-College-Student-Kenneth-Strike/dp/0205173470/ref=sr_1_5?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1267405138&sr=8-5)

### What I expect to learn:

- To learn what ethics does businesses follow at present

### Quote:

“...forced sex is a form of exploitation. One person uses another person for his own ends. Thus forced sex violates the principle of respect for persons. This seems true enough, but perhaps it understates the case. Rape seems a particularly serious and violent form of exploitation. The act itself can be experienced as highly degrading, painful, and intrusive, and often it has quite emotionally destructive long-term consequences for the victim.”

### Book Review:

The author suggested few approaches and questions about the ethics of sex. First, discuss minimal standards for sexual conduct. Second, we want to make a few suggestions about how one might think of sex as part of durable and meaningful human relationships, and compare this position to another view of significance of sex. In most western societies, the minimal standard for sexual conduct between adults is that it should be consensual. Coerced sex or rape is commonly criminalized. Why? 1) One response is that forced sex is a form of exploitation. One person uses another person for his own ends. Thus forced sex violates the principle of respect for persons. This seems true enough, but perhaps it understates the case. Rape seems a particularly serious and violent form of exploitation. The act itself can be experienced as highly degrading, painful, and intrusive, and often it has quite emotionally destructive long-term consequences for the victim.

Perhaps we should not treat rape and seduction as different acts. What should define rape is not force, but more simply the lack of consent. This thinking lies behind the idea of criminalizing adult sex with minors which is called a statutory rape. Statutory rape is considered a violation of minor even when no violence or threat of violence used, because minors are presumed to be unable to give meaningful consent to sex.

One might argue that rape and seduction are different for legal purposes, but not moral ones. They are different legally because the ambiguity about consent makes it difficult to know the extent which sex was consensual. Consider, for example, that it has been common for women to marry men whom they would not otherwise wed for the economic security that such marriage can provide.

**What I have learned:**

- The difference of rape and seduction
- Sexual and relationship obligations

**Integrative Question:**

1. What's the difference between rape and seduction?
2. What makes rape wrong? Is seduction wrong?
3. Which of the couple should decide whether or not to take abortion? Why?
4. Do friends have an obligation to tell friends painful truths, or should their role be only supportive?
5. Do we incur ethical obligations by having sex with someone, even if only once? If so, what kinds of obligations?

\*questions were taken from the book