# **Culture, Ethics and Compliance**

Ela Bochenek, JD Seton Hall Law School Marcos Lobo de Freitas Levy A. Lopes Muniz













Our sign is a promise.

















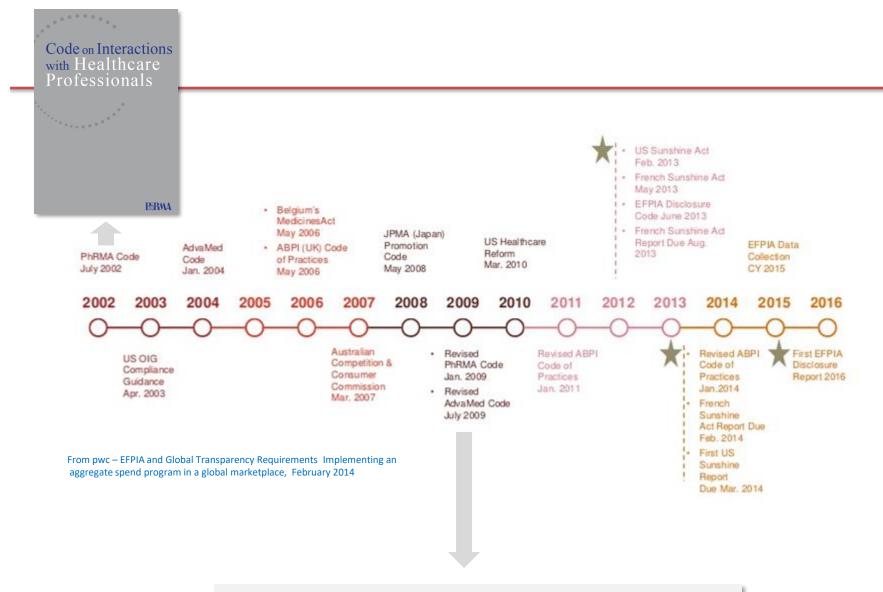












**\$ 31.3 Billion** recovered by the US Government since January 2009 through the False Claims Act



### Dictionary













: to conform, submit, or adapt (as to a regulation or to another's wishes) as required or requested • comply with federal law • the devices comply with industry standards



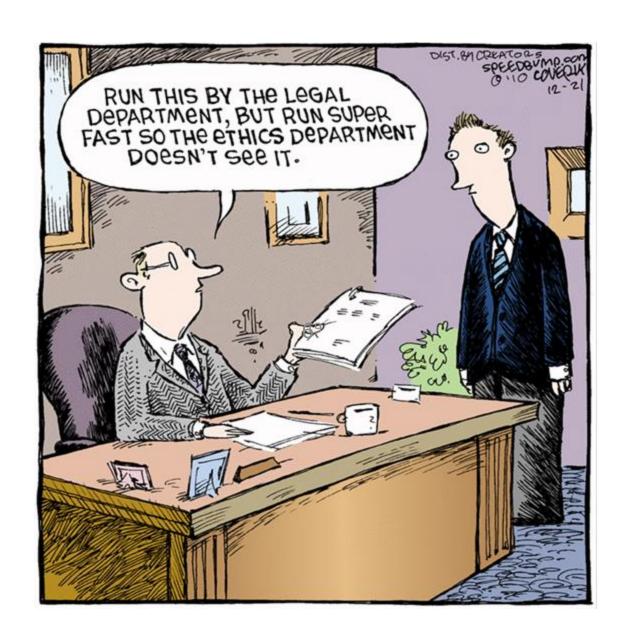
c: the set of shared attitudes, values, goals, and practices that characterizes an institution or organization • a corporate culture focused on the bottom line



ethics plural in form but singular or plural in construction: the discipline dealing with what is good and bad and with moral duty and obligation

It is more than elegantly written Codes of Conduct,
 Values Statements and Ethics Principles – it is the way things really work when conducting day-to-day business.

- It is a workplace that makes it easy to do the right thing and difficult to do the wrong thing.
- It is a workplace where people know what the right thing is and will do it even when no one is watching.





# "Sometimes what is thought to be ethical in one time period, is deemed not to be so later on "

#### **Dr. Myron Scholes**

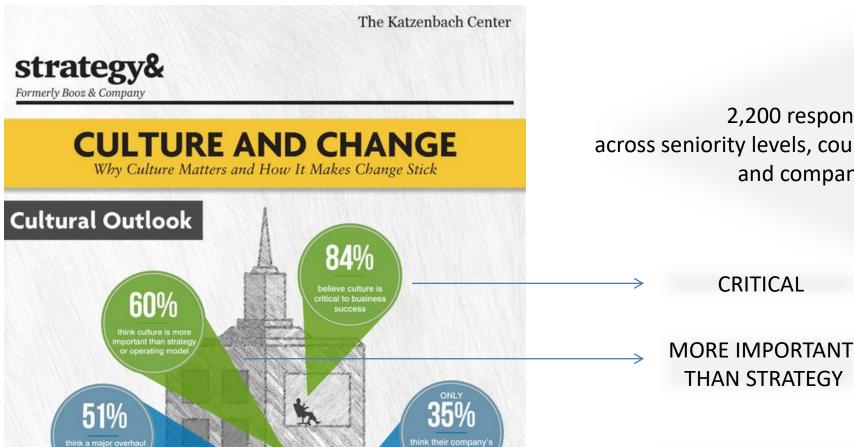
Nobel Prize Winner
Partner, Long Term Capital Management



Bayer's 'Heroin'. Between 1890 and 1910 heroin was sold as **a non-addictive substitute** for morphine. It was also used to treat children suffering with a strong cough.



Cocaine drops for toothache. Very popular for children in 1885.



Who IS in charge of culture change?

Who's driving the change?

Who SHOULD

change?

2,200 respondents across seniority levels, countries and company size

> **EFFECTIVELY MANAGED**

**EVERYONE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CHANGE** 

From: pwc - 2013 culture and change management survey



#### Words of Wisdom from Warren Buffett

"It takes 20 years to build a reputation and five minutes to lose it. Lose money for the firm and I will be understanding; lose a shred of reputation for the firm and I will be ruthless."

"We now employ more than 250,000 people and the chances of that number getting through the day without any bad behavior occurring is nil. But we can have a huge effect in minimizing such activities by jumping on anything immediately when there is the slightest odor of impropriety. Your attitude on such matters, expressed by behavior as well as words, will be the most important factor in how the culture of your business develops. Culture, more than rule books, determines how an organization behaves."

Sixty percent of a company's market value is based on its reputation

Weber Shandwick - November 2011



Fortune Magazine "100 best companies to work for" score 6% higher than the rest in the S&P 500 index

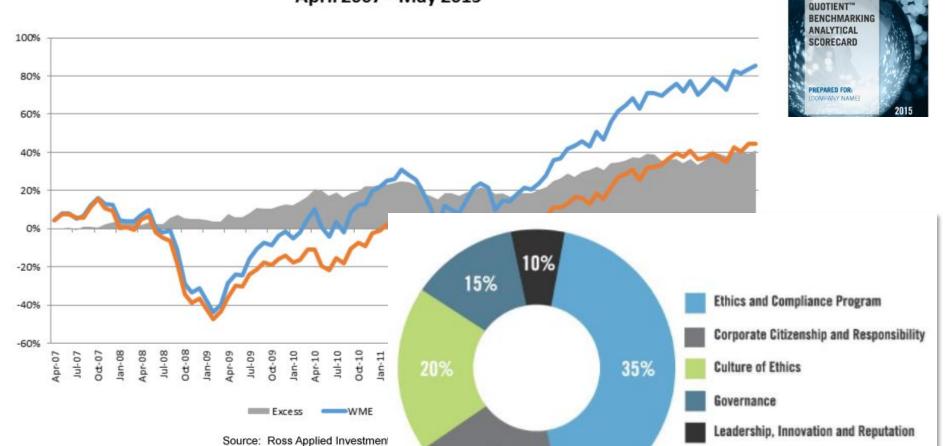




11

**ETHICS** 

## WME Index vs MSCI ACWI Cumulative Performance April 2007 - May 2015



20%

# Positive Business Impact of an Ethical Culture

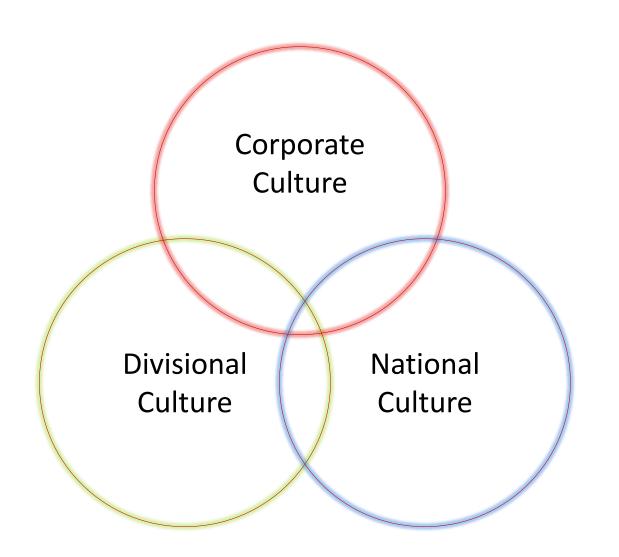
- Prevents non-compliance and fraud by communicating to employees that improper conduct is not tolerated.
- Counteracts government encouragement of employees to bypass internal reporting systems and go directly to them.
- Reduces costs related to litigation, fines, negative media impact and disruption to operations.
- Mitigates the exposure of Board members, Sr. Management and employees to criminal and civil liability.
- Increases attraction of best talent and employee retention by communicating the organization's commitment to ethical operations and standards.
- Solidifies the organization's credibility, which translates into an immensurable marketing benefit.



# An Ethical Culture can no longer be a country-by-country approach



- In a world of information, there are no more secrets and there is no place to hide.
- In today's world, news of a corporation's mishaps or missteps travel around the globe in a matter of hours, and the smallest local episode can have a global effect.



Even in a brand new organization, there is never a cultural "clean slate" – people bring their cultural baggage with them

Not all subsidiaries are at the same level of organizational maturity, and have significant differences in local culture and regulations

### Latin American Business Culture



- Even for subsidiaries of Global Companies, the LA business model is a hybrid between globalization and the region/country historic traditions.
- In the workplace and with customer interactions, there is a collective spirit where hierarchy, loyalty and personal relations are of absolute importance.
- The survival of the organization greatly depends on social networks and government relationships.

 Processes and control mechanisms not driven by local needs are very difficult to understand/accept.

# European Union Business Culture



- Great progress made in creating a culture of compliance, to a large measure assisted by welldeveloped laws and the aggressive local enforcement
- General perception in the EU countries that following the rules is important <u>provided</u> they are local rules and cultural norms
- A big challenge for US companies with EU operations; a strong distrust and frustration with the messages coming from US (viewed as overtly paternalistic, simplistic and overreaching)

#### Russian and Non-EU Countries Business Culture



- Huge importance of relationships with local public officials and social networks; your business success depends on "who you know" and not the quality of your products
- Pervasive traditional culture of hospitality involving elaborate entertainment and hospitality (infused with large quantities of alcohol)
- Workplace model is based on hierarchy; for global companies with local operations, tone in the middle is frequently the only one that matters
- Arcane and complicated administrative and bureaucratic regulations create lack of clarity and give local government officials the opportunity to interpret those rules to the advantage of companies willing to pay bribes

# Asian Business Culture (1 of 2)



- Relationships are paramount, and loyalty to one's "network" or "family" usually trumps loyalty to company
- Cultural norms emphasize flexibility and working to solve a problem rather than blind adherence to rules imposed by outsiders
- Legal frameworks are often still developing in most jurisdictions, leaving significant discretion to government officials and thereby creating avenues for solicitation of bribes

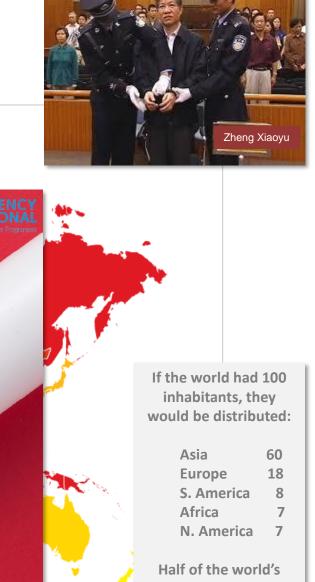
## Asian Business Culture (2 of 2)

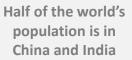


- "Bribing opportunities" are exacerbated by the culture of deference to people in the position of official authority who often solicit for bribes
- Pervasive traditional culture of hospitality involving elaborate entertainment and consumption of exotic and rare dishes (the "puffer fish syndrome")
- Historical pervasiveness of corruption leads many to believe that corruption is inevitable or a necessary evil for doing business rather than immoral or unethical - the pragmatic justification for culture of bribes



# **Corruption Perceptions Index**









#### **Fear of Retaliation**

The fear of payback for doing the right thing is a powerful cause of inaction in organizations.

#### **Avoidance**

When bad things go unpunished or are ignored, it can lead to even worse behavior. It sends the message, "We don't care."

#### **Rationalization**

The "everybody's doing it" mindset can lead people into murky ethical waters. Using neutral terms to describe questionable actions (e.g., "creative accounting") is a subtle form of rationalization.

#### **Thresholds Lowered**

With each unethical decision, the next one becomes easier. It's a slippery slope.

 Increase transparency and personal accountability, particularly at the line management level.

 Preserve alignment between performance goals and business realities.

• Include ethical business goals in key performance metrics and personal performance evaluations that are simple enough to understand and don't stop at "what" but incorporate "how" and "when".

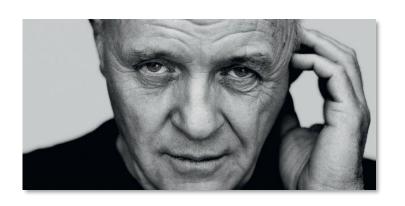
- Incorporate risk assessment methodology in all key projects and initiatives to better understand and manage sources of risk while encouraging prudent risk-taking.
- Reinforce training and certification on critical processes/activities for Company personnel & third parties.
- Establish the concept that the only alternative to risk management is "crisis management."

 When cascading messages through management layers and geographies, take steps to ensure that the tone at the top is not diluted or "lost in translation."

- Balance messages for higher performance so they are not mistaken as tacit endorsements of excessive / improper risk-taking ("tolerate misconduct to reach goals").
- In times of change and uncertainty, be transparent and deliver a clear message to counteract low morale, poor engagement, and employees' shift to self-preservation.

For a Compliance Professional, competence and technical skills are necessary but by no means enough

A Compliance professional must have the social intelligence to understand the business, navigate relationships, listen, communicate, influence, persuade and collaborate



If you are not at the table ....
you are on the menu!

# Thank You!

#### References

http://phrma-docs.phrma.org/sites/default/files/pdf/phrma\_marketing\_code\_2008.pdf https://www.strategyand.pwc.com/reports/cultures-and-change-infographic https://ethisphere.com/ethisphere-announces-2017-worlds-most-ethical-companies/ https://www.transparency.org/news/feature/corruption\_perceptions\_index\_2016 http://www.transparency.org.uk/publications/business-principles-pharma-sector/