Acknowledgements: Thank you to our marvellous leader and Director of Undergraduate Programming, Sally Moore, for navigating this difficult year with grace. Thank you to our Parr Center Director, Dr. Sarah Stroud as well as the rest of the Parr Center Staff for making this year possible!

Who Are We?

- Darian Buck, a Senior Majoring in Philosophy with a minor in Public Policy.
- Ash Santos studies Psychology, Philosophy, and PPE.
- Shivam (Shiv) Bhargava is a Parr Center’s Carolina Forum For Ethics Executive with a minor in Social & Economic Justice.
- Kobe Spells is a Senior Majoring in Arab Cultures and Political Science.
- Melissa Caragol is a senior from Chapel Hill, Carolina. She is graduating with Honors in Public Policy and Religious Studies.
- Quinn started the conversation on everyday situations that require ethical consideration.

Ethical Consumption

Carrying on with the theme of boycotting, consumption, and friendships, our third and final event centered around ethical consumption. We hosted a virtual panel discussion on the idea of whether or not you can still be friends with someone despite having differing beliefs and values, especially politically. Our event was right around the time of the US election, which explains our motivation behind the creation of this event. We noticed that many people were struggling to navigate relationships with friends and family, which is why we wanted to create a safe space for students to discuss when it is appropriate to not be friends with someone.

The setup the event consisted of the fellows in CFE constructing several questions built around the arguments of “Yes, we can still be friends,” “No, one’s morals weigh more than the relationship,” and “No, we’re morally weigh more than the relationship.” We created a list of around 15 questions for attendees to answer surrounding these questions.

In February 2021, we hosted our second discussion subtitled “The Ethics of Ghosting, Chivalry, and Mixed Signals.”

We discussed “ghosting” through the conflicting lenses of utilitarianism (spared feelings and wasted time) and entitlement (to decency and closure), then engaged with chivalry in light of benevolent sexism, before concluding with mixed signals and the limits of a right to clear communication.

Key Takeaways:
- Personal safety complicates the entitlements involved in ghosting and mixed signals.
- Chivalry often constitutes benevolent sexism or is otherwise heteronormative.
- Well-meaning chivalry motivated by societal pressures may be well-meaning chivalry motivated by societal pressures may be well-meaning chivalry motivated by societal pressures.
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- Donna started the conversation on the most pressing ethical questions of our time.

Looking Forward...

We got a jumpstart into next year with planning for an “Ethics of Professionalism” event! We have created a set of resources and potential questions to assist next year’s CFE pod in hosting this event. Our resources explore the following topics:

- COVID-19 impacts on professionalism
- Political neutrality in the workplace
- Racism and bias in professionalism guidelines
- Sexism and racism in workplace attire
- Code switching
- Separations of work and artistic expression

We look forward to seeing where the 2021-2022 CFE team takes this and other future events!

Ethical Consumption

Carrying on with the theme of boycotting, consumption, and friendships, our third and final event centered around ethical consumption. We hosted a virtual panel discussion in order to consider and answer questions from our pod as well as the event attendees. As our discussion largely centered around capitalism, we sifted through the ethical significance of consuming outside of one’s means or convenience for morality’s sake. We then attempted to answer questions like whether or not we have moral obligations to endorse or boycott a company for any reason, as well as how these behaviors are seen as a polarizing, political statement. We appreciated attendees bringing insights on the impacts of thrifting, small and minority businesses, and worker mobilization. For your pondering, there is still the question of, if possible, how can we reach total ethical consumption?

Bonus points if you can think of a framework for ethical consumption that justifies online shopping.

Thoughtful Thursdays

In Spring 2021, we launched our first social media campaign called “Thoughtful Thursdays” to highlight our CFE members and engage our audience in topics of ethics. Each Thursday, we featured one fellow, as well as their answer to a question about ethics.

We engaged our Instagram and Facebook followers in the following topics:
- Donna started the conversation on whether or not we can separate sex from the art from the artist.
- Donna started the conversation on ethical questions in pop culture.
- Donna started the conversation on the most pressing ethical questions of our time.
- Donna and Donna started the conversation on the importance of studying ethics.
- Donna started the conversation on everyday situations that require ethical consideration.
- Donna started the conversation on resources to learn more about ethics.

This year, our Instagram account has grown to 126 followers and our Facebook page has 157 followers.

Can We Still Be Friends?

- Event was held on October 29th, 2020 via Zoom.
- This event was centered around the Ethics of Boycotting, Consumption, and Friendships. The event was meant to create discussion around the idea of whether or not you can still be friends with someone despite having differing beliefs and values, especially politically. Our event was right around the time of the US election, which explains our motivation behind the creation of this event. We noticed that many people were struggling to navigate relationships with friends and family, which is why we wanted to create a safe space for students to discuss when it is appropriate to not be friends with someone.

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This event was very successful with 35+ attendees ranging from undergraduates to graduate students who were all part of different programs and majors. Some key points from the event were that many students were able to share more about how their background and culture affected the way they approach the ethics of friendship.

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