ABSTRACT

This dissertation is an attempt to explore the level of professional ethics of the Consultant Quantity Surveyor. People generally have a negative perception of the construction industry’s ethical climate. Professionals like the Consultant Quantity Surveyors are often employed as the intermediary parties also contribute to the industry’s ethical climate. They owe obligations to their Clients, Employers, third parties and the society to provide professional services by virtue of their employment and the status conferred to them by society. Owing to their expertise and skills, these professionals have the ability to judge and advise parties on a project’s course of action. They help allocate a society’s resources and people entrust their finances, opportunities and safety to their professional expertise.

This research provides an understanding of multiple roles of the Consultant Quantity Surveyor and the ethical issues commonly faced in his work. It also seeks to determine the factors influencing the ethicality of his decisions. Implications for changes in the organisation and the industry as a whole are given in order to promote a higher level of professional ethics.

It is the author’s hope that this dissertation will be useful to those who are preparing to join the construction industry as well as to the working professionals as it provides a start for thinking about the ethical challenges that he will be or is facing as a professional. Hopefully, this work can help prepare the students mentally before they go out into the industrial world where ethical decisions have real consequences. May this also serve to motivate and sensitize them to identify and handle ethical situations more responsibly the next time they are confronted with an ethical dilemma.