

TABLE 4.1

## Kohlberg's Theory of Moral Reasoning

LEVEL	STAGE	DESCRIPTION
Preconventional	Punishment/obedience Naive hedonistic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Focus on the consequences of behavior</li><li>• Focus on equal exchange, manipulative reciprocity</li></ul>
Conventional	Interpersonal authority Social authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Focus on conforming to rules of parents and other family members</li><li>• Focus on conforming to laws and norms of society</li></ul>
Postconventional	Morality of social contract Morality of individual principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Focus on personal decisions to determine when and how rules should be bent</li><li>• Focus on what will most benefit society as a whole or the greater good</li></ul>