“BUSINESS ETHICS: ARE MANAGERS IGNORING THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES TO BUSINESSES?”
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Businesses today are demanding greater profitability. However, sometimes this mandate comes at a cost of unethical business practices. This study aims to uncover the prevalence of unethical conduct in today’s business environment.

There has been a rising trend in unethical decisions taken by several large companies, from the Enron debacle that occurred in 2001 to the recent recalls made by Toyota. This leads to an important question, is the desire to make a profit undermining ethical decisions? Most likely, these decisions were made specifically at the top management level, or executive level. The effects of these decisions could range from decreasing employee productivity and the decline in quality of the product or service to the loss of customers and possibly the suspension of the business.

In an article entitled “Eyes on the Wrong Prize: Leadership Lapses that Fueled Wall Street’s Fall,” the unnamed author talked to Peter Cappelli, a management professor at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. This author writes, “Cappelli says too many managers simply choose not to lead. He says managers believe that if they hire smart people and provide huge financial incentives for individual results, management of the firm will take care of itself”. If this statement holds true, then many managers are ignoring their responsibilities thus causing instability in the company.

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