



## **iQuestions Faculty, John D. Beckett**

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Question:

How do I find a balance between corporate and personal values?

Answer:

You know, in the perfect world, there is going to be good alignment between a person's own values and the values of the organization they work for—but what happens when that's not the case?

That really was the situation at Enron, when they got involved in some very tricky financial deals. One person within the organization had the courage to step forward, speak out, and that was a woman named Sherron Watkins—she was the vice president of finance—and when she did, she cleared her own conscience. It really didn't change the direction of the organization, but ultimately, she was doing what she needed to do: courageously speak out and say, "This is a direction that is going to imperil the company."

Had they listened, it's just amazing to think that that whole organization might have been rescued.