



COP26: THE CHOICE OF OUR LIVES

Ethics is about how choices are made. It identifies and examines the drivers of choice and ultimately helps us to discern what is good or bad, right or wrong, in the choices we make. At its most fundamental level, ethics underpins the world we make.

So, in every respect, what happens in Glasgow is a matter of ethics.

“In the lead up to COP26 in Glasgow, we have witnessed a very partial kind of politics that has no apparent concern for the national interest. Instead, the debate about climate change has been recast as a contest between country and city,” writes **Dr Simon Longstaff, Executive Director of The Ethics Centre**.

“In prosecuting their case, the National Party has sought to remain part of the national government while simultaneously trashing the most basic obligation of governments: that they govern for the sake of all.”

At their best, he argues, politicians enlarge our possibilities, leading electorates to a better place. “[However] our Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, has been wrestling with a form of politics that falls well short of that ideal. It is open to him to choose something better...In Glasgow we will see not only what kind of politician Scott Morrison can be on our behalf. We will also get the measure of his capacity to lead. But most importantly, he will reveal the character of his humanity.” [READ MORE](#)

Dr Simon Longstaff AO is Executive Director of The Ethics Centre. He is available for interview and comment.

The Ethics Centre is a not-for-profit organisation designed to bring ethics to the centre of personal and professional life.

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