

## **CARNIE Bruce (Aus)**

### ***Working towards a Code of Ethics for the Design Profession, with particular reference to textile technologies and their bearing on this subject – paper.***

Ethics and the role of the designer are not new to the textile industry. A look at historical writing of the Industrial Revolution of the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century and the role the textile industry played is never too far from the main themes. The Luddite Rallies and the concerns of society at the time in regards to jobs, pay, their relationship to the machine and its ethical implications on society of the time are explicit.

Today with the introduction of faster forms of manufacture along with the potential uses of new technologies, digital, bio and nano, society is faced with questions that need to be debated around the ethical implications of these new technologies on our society. Designers I believe are pivotal to this debate.

Design has a history of providing the drivers for these new technologies. New developments in textile technology and processes are not merely platforms for improved performance and competitiveness, but must also be a process by which conscientious change can take place in the industry.

By identifying the implications that some of this technology will bring to the designer in regards to ethical issues in design, management and manufacture I will argue that a code of ethics which will socially inform the designer are necessary. Through comparative analysis of business ethics, as design is a business enterprise, and listing a set of issues for inclusion in this code of practice/ethics I will argue for a similarly structured code of practice for the design profession.

This may pose another question as to who will be the regulatory body for this code of practice.

Born in Scotland and educated in textile design at The Glasgow School of Art followed by a Masters Degree in textile design from Manchester Polytechnic I arrived in Australia in 1981. I have worked in the Higher Education sector and in design practice and management. I am currently undertaking a PhD researching the area of Design Management.

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