In the beginning of our anticipated movement toward creating a cooperative federation within our specialty, we received the excellent article about corporativism, the work of the President of the Biolaw Commission of the IAB (Institute of Brazilian Lawyers), Mr. Antônio Couto Filho, to whom we are grateful for his cooperation.

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Ethic corporativism

*Antônio Couto Filho

Corporativism is healthy and ethic, and maintains the seriousness of the agents who are involved in it. Lawyers have their OAB Statutes, which dictate rules of behavior and perceive the ethic degrees and proficiency of their pairs. The Judges, educated in corporativism, are obligated to respect the rules imposed by their professional position, and they are not allowed to experience some acts of civil life which are ordinary for the people who do not have such a commitment. A judge, for instance, will rarely lead a group of soccer fans or drink cachaca in a bar on the corner.

On weekends and holidays, corporate and ethical physicians are involved in conferences, workshops, symposiums and other meetings which are not in line with the interests/possibilities of other professionals.

Corporativism is the power that keeps a professional class alive and allows this class to distinguish itself from others; thus, we are in favor of it. We have the incorrect habit of attributing the fame of an enemy to corporativism. We argue that they are criminals who break the laws and rules of behavior. Because of this mistake, ethics professionals pretend to be guilty and unknowing in order to fit in as corporativist members of their respective fields. It is imperative to progress in this correct classification and to assume our healthy and necessary corporativisms, recovering the shine and the respect that this word offers us. To be corporative is to be a part of a healthy body.

When members or managers of professional entities practice acts that are harmful to the society or that hinder the rights of the others, we will be faced with the unethical or illicit act, for which the available rights and laws (such as civil, administrative and/or criminal) appear to punish these undesirable practices by ethical corporativism.

Ultimately, we need to correct this mistake that disgraces a word that is so useful for our civilization. The corporative ethic must be praised.

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