

**HANDOUT 4.2: Examples of Cultural Values Affecting Coastal Law  
Enforcement**

Cultural value	To the DETRIMENT of the law	To the BENEFIT of the law
<b>Shame</b>	Community members are ashamed to confront or report neighbors who engage in illegal fishing when such activity is common in the community	Community members are ashamed <b>not</b> to report neighbors who engage in illegal fishing when most members of the community comply with the law
<b>Debt of gratitude</b>	Enforcers find it difficult to apprehend violators to whom they are beholden	Enforcers are ashamed not to enforce the law when they feel beholden to the community and its leaders
<b>Smooth interpersonal relationships</b>	Fishers feel compelled to join peers in illegal activities to show their unity to them	Fishers avoid joining illegal activities to show unity with the community
<b>Fatalism</b>	Fishers challenge the law as a way of gambling their fate	Fishers uphold the law and leave their fate to whatever they can gain from it
<b>Family ties</b>	Fishers are compelled to engage in illegal activities when family survival is at stake	Fishers avoid engaging in illegal activities if this may hinder chances of the family from improving economically if one member of the family is apprehended
<b>Respect for elders</b>	Younger generations do not correct wrongdoings or wrong notions of elders who engage in destructive fishing because it is a sign of disrespect	Younger generations correct wrongdoings of elders with the intention of protecting them from possible harm
<b>Personal ties</b>	Local leaders are lenient in prosecuting violators with whom they have personal ties, especially family and friends	Local leaders are ashamed of not prosecuting violators with whom they have personal ties if they feel more beholden to the community who put them in power
<b>Hospitality</b>	Community members feel they must be lenient to visitors and other outsiders, such as tourists, even if they violate coastal laws	Community members, as good hosts, forewarn visitors of possible difficulties they might encounter if they violate coastal laws
<b>Conviction</b>	Community leaders stubbornly circumvent the law to keep up with their image or stand by a previous pronouncement even if proven wrong	Community leaders enforce the law at all cost even if political risk is high
<b>Endurance</b>	Community members feel they must endure the hardships of illegal operations to survive	Community members endure the little gains of complying with the law instead of supporting illegal activities