

TOPIC: MORAL DILEMMA- How I solved it

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There are many eminent speakers, experienced people sitting out here. Who would have faced many such moral dilemma situations which may be interesting ones inspiring ones. I have got a very simple real life story which I experienced during my tenure at work which I would like to share with you all.

I was a class teacher of third grade children. This was my first job as a teacher and I wanted to give my best shot. The best thing between the students and I was that we both wanted to learn. I wanted to learn how to develop my teaching skills so that I can help the children to create their future. I taught them math and science and being a class teacher I had major responsibilities connecting with the children, understanding that each child is different and possess one of the other quality in them.

So I interacted with the children while teaching role plays, personality games, sharing stories, situations. Gradually children started accepting me. They started coming and sharing their talks in my free time.

I would mention this child's pseudo name (Raghav). A boy called Raghav who was a brilliant student of my class, I always observed that he was very reserved, quiet person, focused towards his studies. He was less interactive in class. He looked short heighted, dusky complexion big eyes with the spark in it. The clothes were little worn out, dull...although neatly dressed.

We had performing arts period in the school for the students every Friday. This child Raghav had opted for skating. Few times I remember I used to pinpoint Raghav saying why you are sitting in the class. You are supposed to be on the ground for your performing arts. He would look at me and say yes teacher I'm going. After few weeks, I got to meet the skating sir in a staff meeting and I got to know that Raghav was not attending his skating class. I was zapped. Next morning in my class I asked Raghav to take out the school diary to write a note to his parents about not attending the performing arts period. Might be that Raghav got scared. Next morning was Friday Raghav did not know what to do. He also knew that I had an eye on him. That day his friend Arnav was absent so he thought of taking Arnav's skateboard from his locker to the Skating class. Sir really appreciated that Raghav not only got the skates but was also quick at learning skating. Another Friday came up, now Arnav was furious when he opened the locker n did not find his skates. He came up to me and complained about it. Raghav was scared as he forgot to put the skates back in the locker. I tried searching for them in the classroom, checked it

with the incharge teacher. Arnav's parents also made a big issue out of it, complaining about it. I convinced them that I need some time. When I couldn't find a way out I discussed this matter with my zone incharge. On Monday suddenly during the break time Raghav approached me. Very hesitatingly he said teacher I want to talk to you alone. He told the entire story in his shaking voice. Tears rolling down his eyes he said teacher my father does not stay with us. My mother alone is taking responsibility of me and my younger sister therefore I never shared with my mother that I need skateboard for my performing arts and I never had bad intentions to steal Arnav's skates. I just used it for that performing arts period knowing Arnav is absent. With a fear that I will be getting scolding from you and sir. In my heart I really appreciated the child's honesty and his sensible behavior towards his family. I gave child comfort and assurance that now you should not worry about it and I'll handle this matter and I told him that I am proud of u that you are honest and you had guts to accept your mistake.

Here I was stuck in a moral dilemma

Whether should I save Raghav as he is innocent and solve this issue, simply by handing over the skateboard to Arnav.

Or should I tell my zone incharge about the entire scenario. Which might not go in favor of Raghav and this will inturn will only hamper Raghav's image in class in school and will lower his morale? I deeply thought about this matter that being a responsible teacher should I save Raghav or should I take side of Arnav, as both are correct on their part.

Sometimes this kind of difficult situation always arise in our lives may it be personal may it be professional for us sometimes which looks like a no.6 may seem like a no. 9 for others. Arnav was right on his part as he needed justice and Raghav was also not completely wrong. If I would stretch this matter to zone head or our principal, Raghav would lose trust on everyone including me. On the other hand Arnav and his parents wanted to know who took the skates.

I explained Raghav never ever use things that don't belong to you. Without the permission of the one who owns it. I chose to save Raghav and with my salary saving I gifted him new skate board. I m still in touch with this child and I feel proud when I got to know that this child has recently won skating contest on state level. I believe I was just a messenger sent from god to give this child wings to fly.

The moral of the story

We have solutions to all problems. No one is right or wrong it is different situations which make us do right or wrong things. Every step of life we are stuck in a moral dilemma between the rights and the wrongs, between truth and lies. It is in our hands what decisions we make in a life for us and for others. Teacher's job is not just teaching of completing the curriculum. Children's future is in our hands. And children are just like clay they become how we mould them. You make them or break them.