

Essay Contest



Creative Arts Competition



ESSAY

Third Place (tie)

Nika Wolfs

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Have you ever had to make a quick decision with only a few seconds to think? I was faced with an ethical dilemma in a basketball game when a referee called the ball for our team when I knew I had hit it out. At the time, it was a tough decision to make, but this ethical dilemma has shown me that it is better to be honest and tell the truth because you will feel a lot better afterward.

An ethical dilemma impacted my life when the referee in basketball made the wrong call. "White ball!" the referee said, after the ball went out of bounds. "White ball?" I thought, but that meant we had the ball. I was however, the one who touched it last. I questioned, "What do I do?" For what felt like a long time, a debate occurred in my head between the two possibilities. Option one, if I tell the referee, I am being honest and would not feel as guilty, but our team would not get the ball. Option two, if I do not tell the referee, our team would keep the ball, but I would have lied. The two possibilities were playing over and over in my head.

The ethical decision was difficult to make, but because honesty is so important. Finally, I decided to tell the referee. When making the decision, I thought about how important it is to be honest and not be untruthful and lie. From what I have learned I know that trust is something one can lose quickly so it is important to be honest. The thought of how my team could possibly lose the game came to my mind, but we could still get the ball back and win the game. So, the right decision was made.

This decision impacted my life because it demonstrated that truthfulness is always the best decision. If this happens to me again, I will make the same decision without debating. I was nervous that we might lose the game, but it all worked out and we won. Even though I thought we might lose the game, telling the truth resulted in a positive outcome for my team. In conclusion, this decision impacted me in a positive way and taught me to always be honest.

This ethical dilemma taught me the importance of honesty. My ethical dilemma compares to Robert Frost's "The Road Not Taken." "Two roads diverged in a wood, and I - I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference." This quote talks about making important life decisions and to not always follow what others do. Not only did this situation teach me to be honest, but also that the truth is important, even if it could affect someone negatively.

