

# Knowledge Sacrifice as a means to Austerity of Wisdom

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## What ACTION would you take?

### *Knowledge Sacrifice as a means to Austerity of Wisdom*

It is SPORTS DAY at your school

There are no classes. All students are cheering their friends in the sports field. Two of your best friends come to you and point out that your favorite movie is playing in the cinema complex within the nearby shopping mall and suggest bunking the sports activities and seeing the movie.

The cinema gets over within the school time and all you have to do is to get back after the show and then catch the school bus home.

What would you do? Why?

Write up a small note on the course of ACTION that would be yours – in not more than 100-150 words.

# Not being Truthful

*Siddharth Menon*

30-12-2009

If I were asked to see a movie by my friends during my school sports day, this is what I'd do:-

I would tell them I can't come and that it is wrong to skip school just to see a movie.

I feel skipping school is wrong because if we did that the truth would be found out sooner or later and it would be against the rules of the school. But even if nobody finds out, I would not do it because I know that the all powerful GOD would be watching me do the wrong and I would be called a bad person. But, I want to be a good person.

Seeing the events in the sports day would motivate us to try and qualify for the sports day next year.

Seeing the movie, well, it can wait. It is better watching the sports events because it will be there only once a year.

Even if I don't see the movie now, it will be there even later, it may come out on DVD and I can see it at home when I am free.

So, I feel seeing the sports day is better than skipping school for a movie.

## *Summary*

- Wrong to skip school activities
- Not being Truthful
- Sports motivation for self
- Sports – only once a year
- Movie will be available on DVD

# Upsetting Parents

***Pallavi Menon***

31-12-2009

I would not go out with my friends. If I bunk school I would be expelled. If I am expelled my parents would be upset. Also, I would want to know the winners of the sports competition. If I wanted to see the cinema badly I would tell my parents to take me the next day.

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I would ask my friends to take a copy of the same movie so that I can watch it. I am sure that I will never bunk class even if my parents do not come to know.

## *Summary*

- Expel threat from School
- Upsetting Parents
- Want to know who wins
- Parents will take to movie
- Can watch on DVD

# Aids Bad Habit Formation

***Amrita Menon***

31-Dec-2009

In such a situation, I would refuse to accompany my friends to the theatre. I would also advise them against going for the movie but wouldn't tell on them even if they chose not to listen to me. In this way, my conscience would be clear. There were many risks involved in their plan and if by some chance, we were caught it would create unnecessary trouble and we would have to face our parents' and teachers' wrath. Even if our act went undetected, we would never have mental peace and satisfaction. Involving ourselves in such an act even once could go a long way in making dishonesty and disobedience a habit for us. Besides, I could watch the movie some other day with my parents' consent. I see no reason to do otherwise because, if I agreed to go with my friends, what I would gain, i.e. a movie would give me just three hours of enjoyment but what I lost could give me a lifetime of regret.

## *Summary*

- Will advise against bunking
- No telling against friends even if they do not listen
- Wrath of parents and teachers
- No mental peace and satisfaction
- Habit formation - Dishonesty and disobedience
- Can see movie with parents consent later
- 3 hours of enjoyment against life time of regret.

# Low down activity cultivates bad habits

***Parikshith Warier***

31-12-2009

Yesterday was sports day. We were all kitted up to cheer our school when Atharva and Taaha, my friends, came to me with a brilliant idea, according to them. The idea was to bunk sports day and go for Transporter 3. I decided not to go, as it was sports day and I should be cheering my friends in the sports they are participating in, to make my school win. Also, it was not a good thing to do. Bunking is negative behaviour. I also warned my friends about bunking and tried to talk them out of doing so.

People who bunk have the tendency to get into bad habits like smoking, drinking etc. Such people will not prosper in life. I have to follow my Karma, which is, to cheer my friends even if I am not participating in any sport. If I go for the movie once then it becomes a habit and I wouldn't think twice before doing it the next time. If I really do want to go for the movie I know I can always go after taking my parents permission or otherwise with my parents. I would never do such a lowdown thing as bunking.

## *Summary*

- Cheer and support friends to make school win
- Bunking is negative behaviour
- Try to talk friends out of bunking
- Tendency for cultivating bad habits
- Can go with parents' permission later
- Bunking is a lowdown activity

# Truth Triumphs

***Remya Ramachandran***

31-12-2009

If given such a choice, I would definitely disagree to go with them. I would also try my level best to prevent them from going, but there are certain limits to what one can do.

I would not go to the movies because it would not be right on my part to do so, as it would be a disrespectful thing to do. Our parents work real hard just to feed our stomachs. They work day & night, so that their children can go to school, learn to become better human beings, & lead a successful life in future. And this is how we repay them; by bunking school to watch movies? We must all remember they are the reason we are alive.

Our school is holding this sports day for us. It wouldn't be right to just walk away. Our teachers expect us to attend the sports day & encourage our classmates. So as students, it's our duty to obey our teachers.

And to top it all of, we are lying. Lying doesn't take anyone anywhere, but to misery. Nobody has ever achieved anything by deceiving others. Truth always wins. So why not just follow it?

Besides, if you just tell your parents that you really want to see that movie, I'm sure that they themselves would take you to see that movie.

## *Summary*

- Bunking class is disrespectful to teachers and parents
- Duty to parents
- Obey teachers and take part in sports
- Lying is bad
- Truth always wins
- Parents will allow seeing movie later

# Learned behaviour is human

***Sukanya***

31-12-09

I would tell my friends that my teachers expect me to be in the school during the sports day and so I won't be able to go with them for the film. This is because if I go for the film then I will be going against Sathyam and Dharma which are the most important among the human values. I must be truthful and trustworthy. I would be acting against the trust that my parents and my teachers have placed on me if I go for the film. I would also be setting a bad example for my juniors and going against my Dharma which is to obey my parents and my teachers.

The aim of education is the overall development of a child. So sports day is equally important as academics and must not be considered as a free day. Though my close friends and I am not participating in the sports day, my other friends are participating. I must cheer for them and encourage them to win.

Another reason is that I won't be enjoying the film even if I go with my friends because I will be worried whether anyone would recognize me. So I won't be enjoying both the sports day and the film. If someone finds me, then the trust my parents had on me would be lost.

“Replacing the instinctive behavior by learned behavior is a human quality”. So I must replace the instinctive behavior (to go for the film) by the learned behavior and distinguish between what is good and what is bad. Only then can I call myself a “human being”.

## *Summary*

- Should uphold Sathyam and Dharma
- Trustworthiness is being tested
- Aim of Education is all round development
- Learned behaviour as against Instinctive behaviour is human

# Inculcate Values in Life

***Archana and Aparna Unnikrishnan***

31-12-09

In such a situation I will say 'NO' to my friend. I will avoid going for the film. I may lose many things. Sometimes I will not be able to see that film or I may lose my friends. But I will have one of the human values - SATHYA. If I would have gone my teachers and other friends may not bother but when I reach my home I have to say a big lie to my parents that I was there in the school. Now if I don't go I can face my parents and teachers with a truthful mind. By doing this I will be truthful to me also and it will automatically lead me to other 4 human values {Dharma, Shanthi, Prema, Ahimsa }

## *Summary*

- Human Value – Sathya (Truth)
- Parents will be unhappy if I lie
- Truthfulness leads to Peace of mind (Shanthi) and inculcation of other values within

# Why lie when you can say the truth!

***Rahul Ramachandran***

01-01-2009

I would stay for the sports meet as I don't like to lie. We should not lie as it will bring us unpleasant consequences. We should never lie to our parents. If we go for the movie and our parents get to know about it, they will be disappointed. I would prefer sports meet as I can watch a movie any other time. So my question is "why lie when you can say the truth"? A lie may hide things at first, but after some time the truth reveals and as a school student it is my duty to encourage my friends and cheer for them.

## *Summary*

- Lies lead to unpleasant consequences
- Parents will be disappointed
- Why lie when you can say the truth!

# Do not cheat SELF

***Krishnan***

01-01-2009

Faced with such a position, I admit that I had trouble choosing which path of ACTION to follow. But then I remembered what Balvikas and my parents had taught me. I didn't want to cheat them. In fact, I reminded myself that I would be cheating myself. I remembered my parents saying that at this age there would be many temptations, but it was up to me to choose my path. Also, I did not want to hurt my best friends. So I suggested that we see the movie during the weekend and for now continue cheering my friends in the sports field.

## *Summary*

- Do not cheat parents and teachers
- Do not cheat 'self'
- Shun temptations
- Suggest alternative to avoid losing friends

# Sports help develop mental and physical strengths

***Bharath***

03-01-2009

I never would have gone to watch that movie, even if my best friends force me to go. There are four reasons why I wouldn't have gone:

- I didn't take permission from my parents
- I would like to take part in the sports day
- I can watch the movie later in the theater or when it comes out on a CD  
And the main point is:
- If our parents find this out they will be sad because their son is doing this

I would have told my friends not to do this bad thing ever again and come and cheer for me in the sports day. I would have told them that sports helps us to have physical and mental growth whereas watching TV for a long time may be enjoyable but does not do any good.

## *Summary*

- 4 reasons
- Tell friends never to do such things
- Sports is important and helpful than watching TV

# Take right decisions and behave well

***Sethulaskhmi***

06-01-2009

Facing such situation my answer to them would be a simple 'NO'. They might think I am a coward or something but I don't mind. The important thing is that I watch the sports activities and be part of the School functions. With this answer I might lose their friendship but that does not bother me. The things that I care are how I behave with others and if I am taking the right decisions.

On this occasion my conscience told me not to go with my friends for a movie; instead watch the sports. If I had gone out with them I would have taken the wrong path in my life and I would be affected. As a child my job is to study, obey my parents, elders and teachers.

## *Summary*

- May lose friends
- Follow conscience
- Take right decisions and behave well
- Children have certain duties

# Hold temptations

*Parvathy*

08-01-2009

I would stay in school and watch the sports day event since I had told my parents that I am going for the sports day. Honestly, if I had any choice to call my parents, I would go for the movie with their permission. If I had gone to the cinema without my parents' permission that would be cheating my parents and that also means cheating myself. If I had gone to watch the movie, my conscience would prick me and somehow I would disclose the secret to my parents. So I would hold my temptations.

## *Summary*

- Should not cheat parents
- Seek permission and go for movie
- Hold temptations

# Call of Conscience

*Sruthy*

09-01-2009

I have never come across such a situation and if I ever will, I will choose not to go as I would miss the Sports Day which is held only once in every year. I love watching the sports day and cheering for my friends. I can always see the movie on a later occasion. It is wrong to go somewhere alone without our parent's or teacher's permission. We might get lost or something and it will worry everyone. Also, the movie might end later than expected and we may miss the bus. At that particular time, I may not have enough money to buy the tickets. If anyone finds that I had done such a thing, I will land up in unnecessary trouble. Even if nobody finds out also, my conscience will not leave me in peace. I will feel guilty about it later on. I might as well try telling my friends not to go.

## *Summary*

- Sports is interesting
- Parents and Teacher's permission is needed
- May get lost or miss bus
- Conscience will not leave me in peace

# **My responsibility**

***Soumya***

16-01-2009

As I love sports, I'd not like to miss the sports day. Moreover, it is not only my responsibility to attend school classes, but also school functions. Movies are not that important to me as sports and also what is the fun in watching movies? Movies only give you the thrill of seeing it at that hour/hours but the memory of being in the sports day will be with you for a long time.

## *Summary*

- Love Sports
- My responsibilities
- Movies give fleeting enjoyment; sports lasting.