



# Reasoning with Ethics

FEBRUARY 27, 2017

A Project of The School for Ethical Education | [www.ethicsed.org](http://www.ethicsed.org)

***“Ethics in action creates character.”***

Use this blog to:

1. Lead class discussions in social studies, civics, ethics or advisory classes.
2. Teach students skills to analyze cases with core values.
3. Recognize skills in support of the four components of ethical functioning.

**[Visit the online Ethics Blog.](#)**

## ***No Room for Hate***

Reports of threats and vandalism against Jewish community centers and cemeteries have increased in the New Year. In the [video link](#) here, Vice President Pence speaks at a vandalized Jewish cemetery in St. Louis and honors those who worked quickly to restore the damage and said, “There is no place in America for hatred or acts of prejudice or violence or anti-Semitism.” Regretfully, a similar vandalism occurred in New York this weekend.



While it is difficult to conceive of the core ethical values of those who carry out vandalism against a cemetery, our challenge is to find the core values and social skills to resist prejudiced, threatening and/or bullying behavior. While not everyone knows in advance about vandalism of the nature in this story, many students recognize when hazing, bullying or on-line intimidation is taking place. US secondary students can report observing bullying behavior on a daily basis.

What core ethical values would support turning our passive witnessing of intimidation and bullying into a wise intervention? Further, SEE would welcome student comments to describe what social skills would enable a witness to intervene and resist a bully. If there is no place for hate in America, it will take the commitment and skill of witnesses of hate to wisely intervene.

Regarding the questions in this case, SEE welcomes students to post their response on our website at [http://bit.ly/Ethics\\_Case](http://bit.ly/Ethics_Case) where more information is available in support of *Reasoning with Ethics*.

### **Contact information**

The School for Ethical Education is a not for profit teaching agency in Milford, CT with the mission to advance strategies of placing ethics in action to create character. As a non-sectarian 501(C)3, SEE is supported by fees for service, grants and donations. For more information visit our website at [www.ethicsed.org](http://www.ethicsed.org) Please reply with “unsubscribe” in the subject heading if you want to be removed from this Reasoning with Ethics Blog.