



# Reasoning with Ethics

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***“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.](#)**

## **The Ethics of Suicide**

A sixteen-year-old high school girl in Oxford, Michigan is confronting the tragedy of teenage suicide. CBS News reports that Morgan Abbott knows the pain of suicide as her older sister chose that path in 2013. Now with the Netflix series, *13 Reasons Why* becoming so popular with teens, Morgan wanted to provide a clear rebuttal to any hint of support for the option of suicide with the creation of the project 13 Reasons Why Not.



There is no ethical model that can offer support for self-inflicted death of an otherwise healthy adolescent. Ethics provide principles and rules to govern life in community to flourish. Suicide simply ends life. There is no flourishing with suicide. Morgan's response to the 13 reasons phenomenon was to work with friends and provide 13 reasons to live.

What core ethical values are demonstrated by Morgan and her friends to advance their version of 13 reasons? After watching the video link (below) what skills has it required for Morgan to implement the idea in her high school? SEE commends Morgan's initiative and thoughtfulness to advance this difficult conversation.

Regarding the questions in this case, SEE welcomes students to post their response to this archived case on our website at [http://bit.ly/Ethics\\_Case](http://bit.ly/Ethics_Case) where more information is available for *Reasoning with Ethics* and the video link for this case at <http://www.cbsnews.com/videos/13-reasons-why-not>

### **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.