



# Reasoning with Ethics

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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 ethical values.
3. Recognize skills in support of SEE's Tri-Factor Model of ethical functioning.

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## ***The Choice to Resist Fraud***

“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men [women] to do nothing” is a quote from Edmund Burke in 1795. His observation is as true today and can be applied to issues locally, nationally and globally. A CBS News story identifies a national fraud case that needed “good men or women” to stand up and resist.



On Friday, federal officials went public with a case of massive Medicare fraud and charges against 35 people. One example of those charged was Dr. Daniel Canchola, who is alleged to have submitted \$69 million in fraudulent claims. He reportedly signed medical testing orders without examining or speaking to patients. One individual case (and there were hundreds) resulted in \$19,000 worth of charges from which Canchola received kickbacks from medical testing services.

Dozens of individuals were involved in the larger case that led to \$2.1 billion in fraudulent Medicare claims. It is reasonable to assume that many others (billing office, bookkeepers) were aware of the fraud and it is unclear to SEE how the case was ultimately exposed.

Students are asked to identify what ethical values would be demonstrated if they observed a fraud and made the choice to expose it. In addition, what social skills might be necessary to successfully report a fraud? Finally, what responsibility to report would students cite for themselves if they recognized a fraud taking place? In practical terms, this could include cheating at school to fraud in the workplace.

Regarding the response sought for this archived case, SEE welcomes students to post responses on our website at [http://bit.ly/Ethics\\_Case](http://bit.ly/Ethics_Case) and view a relevant video at-- <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/medicare-fraud-arrests-expected-in-connection-with-massive-medicare-fraud-scheme-cases-cbs-news-exclusive/>.

### **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.

