



Reasoning with Ethics

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A Project of The School for Ethical Education | 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.

[Visit the online Ethics Blog.](#)



The Ethics of Service

Veterans' Day is a national day of reflection and appreciation to those who have served this country in the US Military. There are many service professions such as education, medicine, first responders and social services, but the military is unique in the special demands and sacrifices that anyone joining a branch of the military can be called upon to make. The sacrifices range from reduced income and missing family events during deployments, to physical and psychological wounds and the ultimate sacrifice of their own life.

We are 58 years removed from President John F. Kennedy's famous inaugural charge of, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." When compared to the current presidential campaign, when candidates are promising trillions of dollars in government spending the call to service seems quaint. This is while Ed Week (see link) has recently published research on the downward trend of volunteering among young people.

Students are asked to consider what core values support a person's motivation to a life of service in any form? Do students consider vocations of service an ethical good? Finally, in addition to the motivation to serve, what social and professional skills might help a service professional be successful?

Regarding this archived case, additional background can be found at the following links.

EdWeek Story: http://bit.ly/EdWeek_VolunteerDecline

CBS Veterans Day Video: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/trump-veterans-day-parade-speech-watch-president-speaks-in-new-york-city-today-2019-11-11/>

Military Holiday Card Challenge service-learning idea:

<http://www.militaryholidaycardchallenge.com/>

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 Please reply with "unsubscribe" in the subject heading if you want to be removed from this Reasoning with Ethics Blog.

