



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

[Visit the online Ethics Blog.](#)



## ***Political Fraud***

Past mayor of Baltimore, Catherine Pugh will be facing a sentencing hearing in late February after pleading guilty to fraud, corruption and tax evasion charges. Pugh will be sentenced in late February for fraudulent sales of a book she wrote in support of children's health.



As she entered into the office of Mayor, major donors, and contractors who could benefit from her city administration purchased thousands of copies of Pugh's book. Most of these books were never delivered and then resold to others for over \$850,000. This was a sophisticated fraud and required the assistance of others, including her past campaign manager who she also provided a Baltimore city position.

Fraud that taints politics is as old as politics itself. Most students are years away from facing a corruption temptation where their political or business power might invite or solicit a corrupt payment. However, the commitment to integrity must begin sometime if it is to overcome any future lure of corruption.

Students are asked to consider what core values they believe should not be compromised for personal profit or advantage. How could these core values apply to life circumstances that students face today such as temptations to cheat, social media shaming or anti-social peer pressure in any form?

### **Other Resources**

CBS News (nov/2019) (1:42)- <https://www.cbsnews.com/video/former-baltimore-mayor-pleads-guilty-in-corruption-scheme/>

DailyWire link to story --<https://www.dailywire.com/news/federal-prosecutors-recommend-hard-time-for-ex-baltimore-mayor-reveal-new-details-on-childrens-book-scandal>