



Dilemma Story Session #1

Officer Johnson has been working patrol for five years. She is assigned to uniform patrol and has an area that includes an elementary school and a high school, as well as some residential and commercial properties.

After roll call, she leaves the station and is driving patrol on the afternoon shift. Officer Johnson sees a car slow down but fail to stop for a stop sign. She turns on her lights and pulls in behind the car. The car does not pull over immediately and appears to speed up slightly. Officer Johnson turns on her siren to signal the driver of the car she has been following to pull over. As the car pulls over, Officer Johnson notices that the car has no rear plate and that the brake lights do not seem to be working. Three young people in the car are talking animatedly as the car pulls over.

Officer Johnson checks out the car's description and her location on traffic radio. The dispatcher reports that a car with that description was reported stolen recently and had been reportedly seen near the school parking lot.

Officer Johnson is told that the car had been taken from a home and that the owner said she was warming it up with the keys inside and that she had left her purse on the seat and had also left in the car a nine-month-old puppy that she was taking to the vet.

Officer Johnson walks up to the car, sees a young male driver, and asks him for his license, car registration, and insurance information. The driver gives her several documents and asks why he was pulled over. As Officer Johnson begins to examine the documents, the front passenger door starts to open. What should Officer Johnson do now? What values should govern the actions of the police officer in this dilemma?

Discussion Questions for Facilitator

After you read the dilemma:

- What values do you see in conflict with each other in the dilemma? (open-ended)

Text study and discussion around the chosen text:

- Go back to the dilemma again and discuss the dilemma story considering your text study.

Questions for second discussion of dilemma:

- In what ways did your viewpoint change after your text study, if any? (open-ended)
- What values would you prioritize in this situation after engaging in the text study? (open-ended)

Wrap up questions at the end of your discussion:

- To what extent did the scenario and session deepen your understanding of the challenges of public safety policies and practices?
 - No change in my understanding
 - Some deepening of my understanding
 - Great deepening of my understanding

- How much do you agree or disagree: Faith-based values can inform public safety decisions and action?
 - Strongly agree
 - Somewhat agree
 - Not sure
 - Somewhat disagree
 - Strongly disagree