

Case Study: Moral Development

Introduction

- Moral development for our children is not usually taught in the classroom as a formal lesson, but it remains hidden in each lesson behind the rules and social interaction that make up that lesson. If you were to ask students in a range of ages what constitutes “fairness” to them, you would receive a wide range of answers that are dictated on the age of the child. So, according to educational psychology, moral development is something that grows and changes as our students grow and change.
- In this assignment, you will be asked to describe your case study’s moral development and defend a teaching strategy appropriate for that development.
- A model answer for this assignment is located in step 3.

Instructions

Step 1: Describe your case study’s current moral development



Review the resources below to provide you with the research that will help you describe your case study’s current moral development. You should only review the resources that pertain to your case study. For example, if your case study is not an adolescent, then no need to read about the moral and adolescent development. You are welcome to use your

own resources via other text, internet, etc., as long as you provide valid citations of where you got your answer. If you find a great site or resource, please let your instructor and your fellow students know by emailing everyone in the class.

Read the Woolfolk Text

12th Edition

- **Read Text: p. 99 – 108 – Understanding Others and Moral Development**
 - **Focus on Theory of Mind, Kohlberg, and Gilligan 11th Edition**
- **Theory of Mind**
 - **Read Text: p. 97 – Theory of Mind**
- **Moral Development**
 - **Read Text: p. 98-104 – Moral Development**
 - **Kohlberg's Theory of Moral Reasoning**
 - **Read Text: p.99 Table 3.6 – Kohlberg's Theory of Moral Reasoning**
 - **Carol Gilligan's Ethic of Caring (p. ?)**

Surf the Internet

- **Google**
 - **Try Googling your case study's moral development**
- **Videos/Multimedia**
 - **Theory of Mind – False Belief Test**
 - **http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8hLubgpY2_w**
 - **Kohlberg's Theory of Moral Development (Children expressing various views)**

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g0ayolpR1xk>

Interview Your Case Study

○ **Personal Interview**

- **Read your case study the story of Valjean – the person who stole to save his family, but got caught years later. Ask your case study what should happen to Valjean.**
- Evaluate what level of morality that Kohlberg would place your case study
- Ask your case study whether they had done anything dishonest, such as cheat or steal. How did they feel about it? Has your case study done anything that they felt bad about it later on? (see Carol Gilligan in your textbook regarding levels of empathy).
- If your case study is seven years old or less, consider doing the theory of mind test. See http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8hLubgpY2_w

Step 2: Describe a teaching strategy that will support your case study's current moral development. Defend your answer on why you think it will work.

- To get you started in choosing and defending your teaching strategy, consider the following questions as a guide for your thinking, but you don't have to address all of them. Please feel free to come up with your own approaches to help defend your teaching strategy
 - How does your teaching strategy in your lesson...
 - help young students develop a theory of mind or if older, perspective taking ability?
 - help students with their moral reasoning?
 - help students with distributive justice?
 - involve Kohlberg's Theory of Morality – basically what level of moral reasoning are your student operating at? [Main theoretical perspective of Morality]
 - involve Gilligan's Morality of Caring – basically what level of moral caring are your students at? [Alternative theoretical perspective of Morality to Kohlberg's]

- help students in making positive personal and moral choices, especially in the decision to not cheat in class.
- Review the resources below to provide you with the research that will help you describe and defend a teaching strategy that will support your case study's current moral development. You are welcome to use your own resources via other text, internet, etc., as long as you provide valid citations of where you got your answer.

- **Moral Behavior and Cheating**

- **Teaching Strategies**

- **12th Edition**

- **Read Text: p. 103 – Implications for Teachers**
 - **Read Text: p. 107 – Guidelines: Dealing with Aggression and Encouraging Cooperation**
 - **Read Text: p. 108 - Table 3.6 – When do Students Cheat?**

- **11th Edition**

- **Read Text: p. 101 – Implications for Teachers**
 - **Read Text: p. 103 – Guidelines: Supporting Personal and Moral Development**
 - **Read Text: p. 104 - Table 3.8 – When do Students Cheat?**

Step 3: Present and communicate your answers for step 1 and 2 electronically and place in your case study.

- Although a majority of you will describe and defend students' moral development and teaching strategy by writing a paragraph, there may be a few of you that may want to use other alternative media, and I want to support that and give you options to be creative. You may also use a combination of media to make your point. For example, you may combine some writing, with images, podcast, YouTube Video, PowerPoint, etc., to defend your teaching strategy.
- Keep in mind that any presentation method is valid as long as it clearly communicates and supports your answer. My only criteria for the type of media used is that the media is electronic and can be placed or linked successfully into your case study.
 - 1) For example, what if you could defend your teaching strategy by using a series of moral dilemmas that you found in the text that showed how your students might respond to the idea of fairness.
 - 2) Or if you found a short video of a student who discusses what rules they consider in the classroom as fair.
- After you have completed your answer for step 1 and 2, then place it in your case study. Place a heading above your answer – Teaching Strategies: Moral Development. **Remember that you are going to combine all the sections into one case study at the end, so please keep this section in a safe place until then. I would suggest even sending an email to yourself with this section attached to ensure that you don't lose your work.**



Source:

https://laulima.hawaii.edu/access/content/user/jjudd/edep289/edep_assignments/standard_HTSB_1_development_and_learning/assignment_HTSB_1_development/development_moral.htm