# **Real World Problem Solving**

### Situation #1

You won two concert tickets from your favorite radio station and you can only take one of your closest friends. One friend loves the band and you promised each other if either won tickets you would take the other. However, you think you would have more fun with another friend who also likes the band. Who would you choose and why?

### Situation #2

Your birthday is coming up and you are planning to have a party to celebrate. You have sent invitations and everyone is coming. The day before the party, your two closest friends get into a fight and refuse to speak or be in the same room as each other. You want them both at your party but you don't want them to ruin it either. What will you do and why?

### Situation #3

You are at lunch with a group of your friends. Two of your friends start to gossip about another friend who has another lunch. Do you join in, ignore them, or confront them? Why?

### Situation #4

You are out shopping with a group of friends. Two of your friends find the same shirt and, after trying it on, want to buy it. There is only one left in their sizes and they begin to argue who should be able to buy it. What do you do to help in this situation and why?

#### Situation #5

After a day of driving around with one of your friends, you take him/her home and stop to get some gas. You go to your glove box, where you keep some extra money for gas. Before you left in the morning, you knew there was \$20 but now that money is gone. What do you do about the missing money? Why?

# Situation #6

It is Friday night and you are going to see a movie. Do you go with your best friend or do you go with your boyfriend/girlfriend? Either way, someone is going to be hurt by your decision. What do you do and why?

## Situation #7

Your best friend is crazy about someone. Your friend wants you to talk to them on their behalf. After talking to them, you find out that the person actually likes you. You think you might be interested in them too. What do you do and why?

# **United States Situations**

### Situation #1

A well-known terrorist has attacked the United States and is hiding in another country. What steps would you take as the United States to capture this individual?

### Situation #2

After years of fighting, a war finally comes to an end. The United States is one of the winning countries. As the victorious countries come together they must decide what to do with the country that surrendered. One country wants the surrendered country to be under strict government rule but the U.S. wants the people to vote on their new leaders. How should the U.S. handle this situation?

### Situation #3

The United States is in a time period where all other countries are trying to expand their borders to gain territory. During this time, another country begins to be split up by some more powerful countries. Five countries have invaded and demanded exclusive trading rights in the country. The United States just wants the ability to openly trade with the country. What should the U.S. do to get that privilege?

## Situation #4

There is a small island country in the Pacific. The United States thinks that it is a great country for its strategic location and ability to produce tropical crops. The country is led by a native group but when looking at the population, the natives are the minority group. An American farmer decides to overthrow the native leaders and take the country for himself. The U.S. is interested in gaining this territory and perhaps making it a state. What should the United States do about the farmer and the native government?

### Situation #5

A country is divided into a North and a South based on the type of government each side wants. One side supports Communism while the other supports Democracy. The United States has a policy to fight the spread of Communism, but this nation is located on the other side of the world. What should the United States do about this situation?

### Situation #6

The United States strongly supports human rights. As time passes, the U.S. hears that a leader in another country is mistreating its people. People are not given adequate food and supplies and if they speak against their leader, they are thrown in prison or killed. What is the role of the United States in this situation? Why?

### Situation #7

There is a very large war taking place on the other side of the world. Countries that are friends of the United States are involved. The United States does not want to get involved in war but wants to support its allies. What should the United States do about the war?