

Thinking Ethically

In Peter Singer's video "Drowning Child", he discusses an ethical situation of a child drowning in a pond as you walk by and whether or not you should go in and save the child. As I watched the video and thought about which ethical approach I would choose, I thought about whose life and overall being would be affected the most. Singer discusses how one may be torn to save the child if they are worried about ruining their belongings or shoes. Although some individual people may be inclined to save their shoes rather than a dying child gasping for air, I however feel differently. Given that I would personally and "ethically" save the child, the reason of *why* I chose to is the raw and real question.

Although I feel that saving a drowning child shows great bravery, heart, and **virtue**, the true pride comes from being part of a **community** and helping the **common good**. The parents of the child clearly aren't around to aid him, so it's up to the soul of a common man to act as the child's family or parent in a time of dire need. Naturally it is not a stranger's duty to help a child that is not theirs, but once someone makes the switch from stranger to a helping hand in the community, their ethics and moral values shine through and potentially set stage for a brighter situation; i.e., drowning child. Every common helping hand in the community all know that we are part of a whole and each individual has an ethical advantage over those who choose to ignore the needs of our society when know one else is around to help.