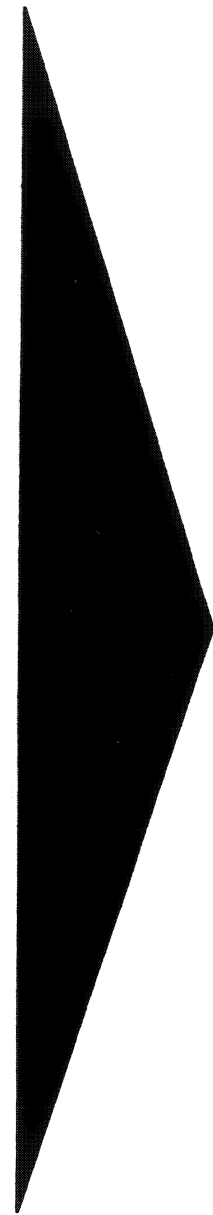


**"SOME PEOPLE ARE BRAVE;
AND SOME PEOPLE
JUST DON'T KNOW
ANY BETTER."**



TEACHER BACKGROUND INFORMATION USING GOOD JUDGMENT

Everyone makes decisions everyday--what time to get up, what to eat for breakfast, what to wear, how to do your hair, whether or not to do homework, etc. There are good decisions and bad. Good judgment means that you consider the risks and weigh the consequences so that when you make a choice, you will weed out the decisions that may cause harmful or disastrous consequences to your life and health.

According to Dr. Stephen Glenn, good judgment is a product of experience, but it is more than that. We know this because we all have experience, but we don't all have good judgment. The development of judgment comes when we understand our experiences. We look at:

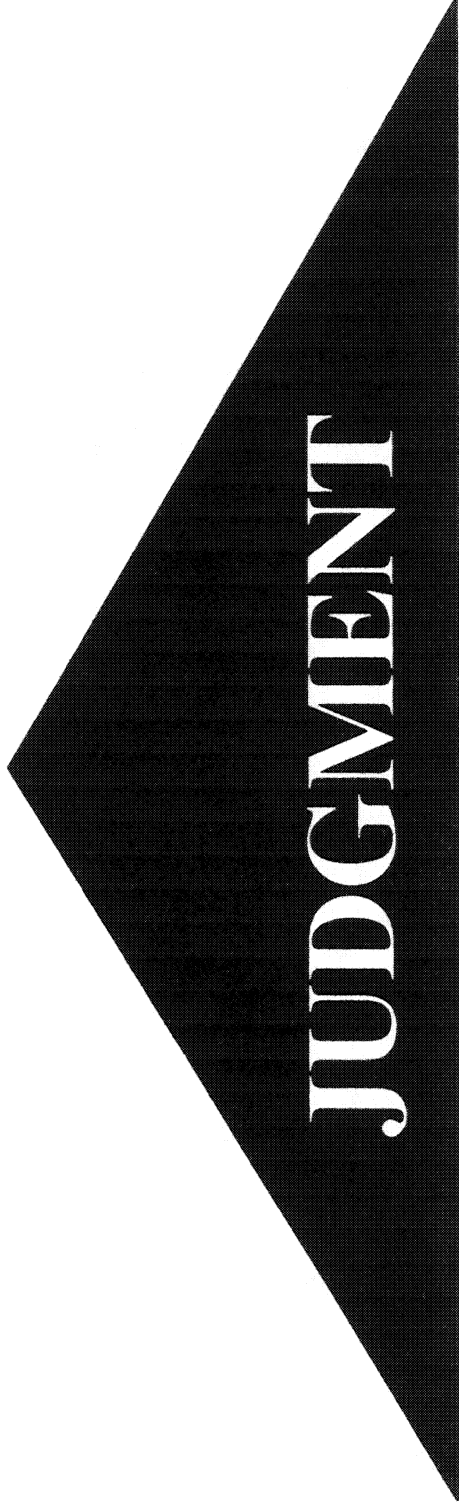
- What has happened?
- Why did that happen?
- What could I do next time so it might not happen again?
(or so that it will happen again, if the experience was positive)?

Perception is the basic element of judgment since one cannot respond to something until it is recognized or perceived. In order to make a judgment, a person must be able to determine these things from his/her experiences:

1. What is significant about the experience?
2. Why is it significant?
3. How does it or will it affect the decisions I make in the future?
4. How does it or will it affect my actions in the future?

It is important that we learn from the experiences of others. An individual cannot possibly learn everything for himself/herself, but must rely on the learnings of those around him/her and/or individuals from history. By observing the actions, decisions, judgments, and consequences of others, we can learn a great deal.

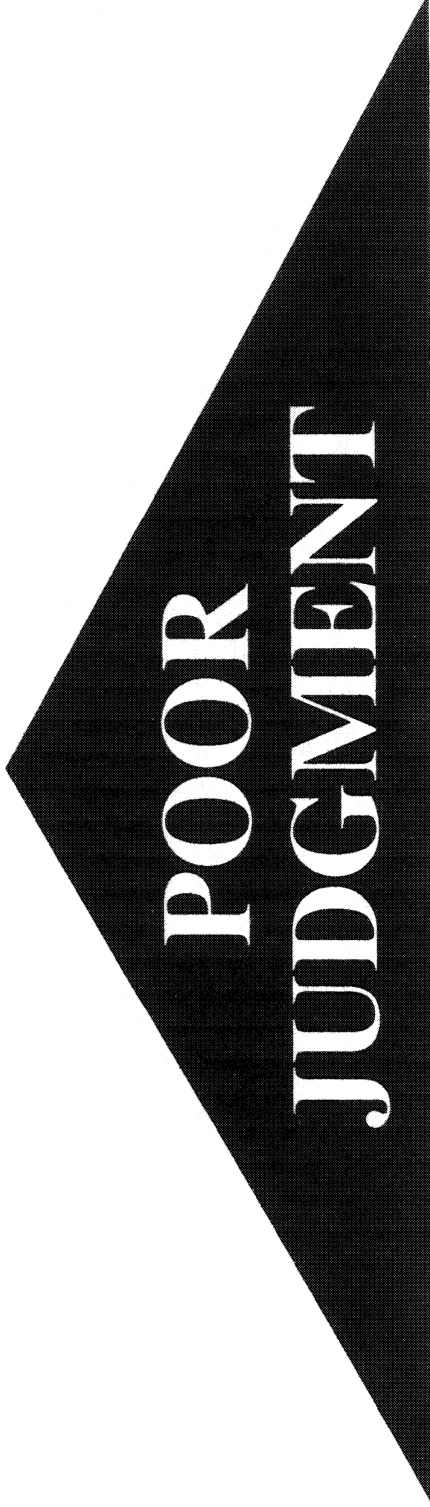
Glenn, H. Stephen; *Developing Capable Young People*



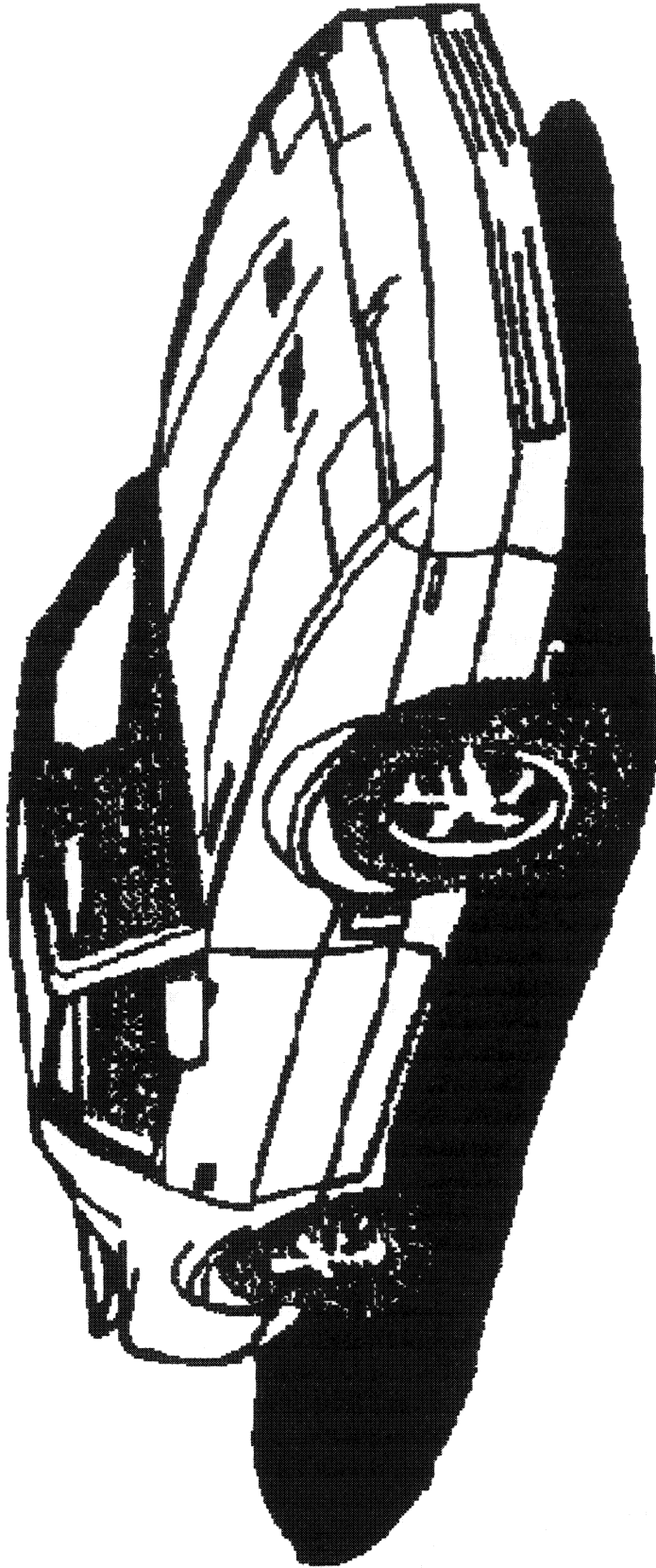
**The process of
forming an opinion
or
reaching a conclusion
based on the available material**



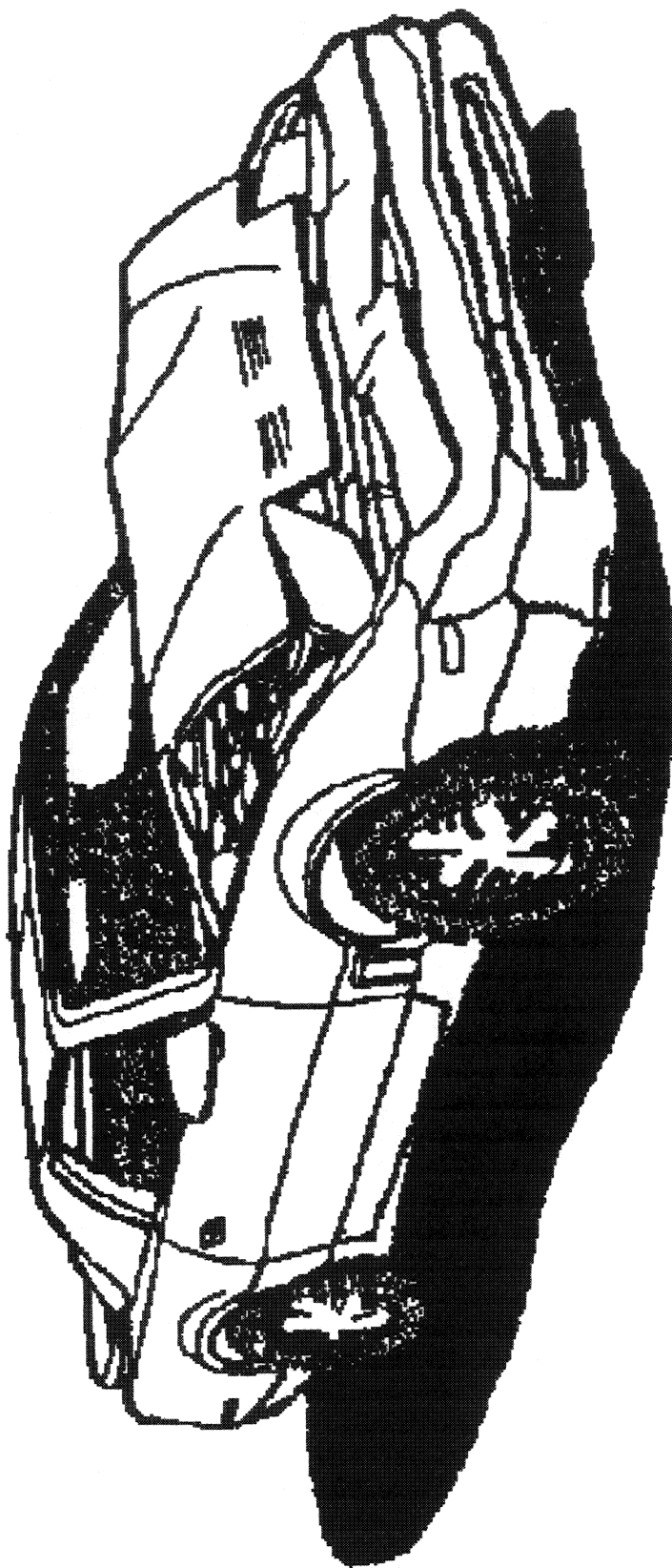
**Using the
critical thinking process
to form an opinion
or
reach a conclusion**



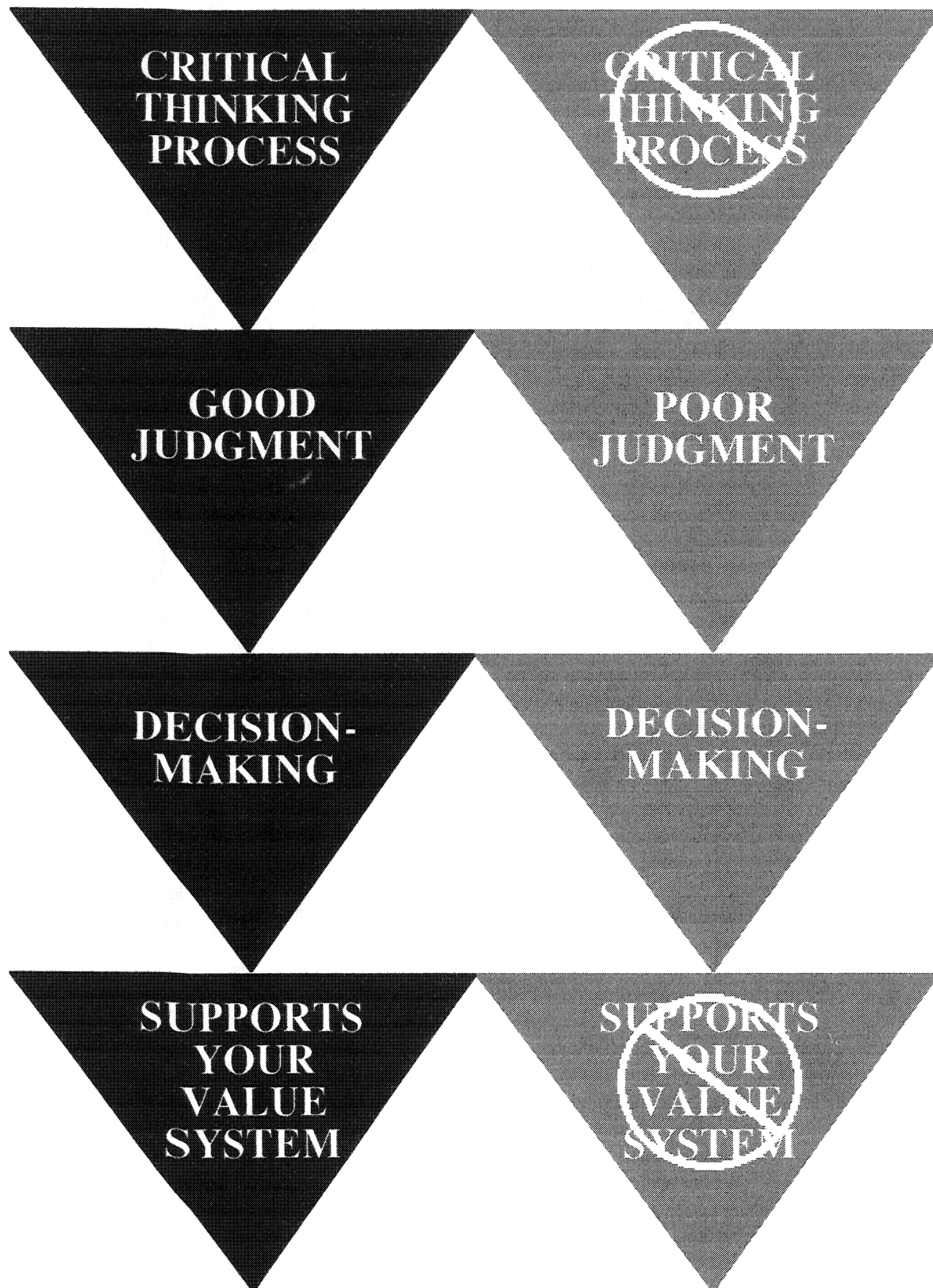
**Not using the
critical thinking process
to form an opinion
or
reach a conclusion**



GOOD JUDGMENT



POOR JUDGMENT



Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

BEST INTEREST TEST

When using good judgment to make decisions, it is important to make them for the right reasons--not because you feel pressured or forced into something. By answering the following questions, you should be able to better understand your individual decision-making patterns.

Directions: Consider an important decision you have made recently that relates to your family or your friends and write the decision you made here:

Now: Circle the answer that most accurately reflects your decision.

- | | | | |
|-----|----|-----|---|
| Yes | No | 1. | Was this choice in your best interest? |
| Yes | No | 2. | Was this choice ONLY in your best interest? |
| Yes | No | 3. | Did this choice consider how others would be affected? |
| Yes | No | 4. | Was this decision in others' best interests? |
| Yes | No | 5. | Could this decision be revised to be in your own and others' best interests? |
| Yes | No | 6. | Would this decision have any effect on the daily routine of the family? |
| Yes | No | | If yes, have you worked it out with those involved? |
| Yes | No | 7. | Would this decision have any long range affects on the family, or on future family? |
| Yes | No | 8. | Was your choice fair to those involved? |
| Yes | No | 9. | Were your values compromised by this choice? |
| Yes | No | 10. | Of all the things you could have done in this situation, was this choice the one you believe was the right one? |

When you have finished, analyze your answers, look for signs of selfishness, or long-range effects that might work against you in the future. Ask yourself if you have made your choice for the right reasons.

TEACHER BACKGROUND INFORMATION TYPES OF RISKS

There is risk involved in all aspects of our lives. Crossing a busy street certainly causes a risk; however, when we can make a conscious decision about whether or not to do something that is harmful to us, that is when using good judgment can improve the quality of our lives. Risks can be divided into seven categories:

- Physical:** causing physical harm or injury to yourself
(hang gliding, skiing, racing, etc.)
- Psychological:** causing emotional harm or injury to yourself
(love, trying out for something, disobeying parents, etc.)
- Drug/Alcohol Related:** causing physical and emotional harm to self or others
(smoking, pills, drinking, riding in the car with someone under the influence, etc.)
- Legal:** causing risks with the law
(stealing, running away, hurting someone, etc.)
- Financial:** causing a risk to personal resources
(investing money, lending money, borrowing money, buying a home, etc.)
- Social:** causing a risk of rejection by your peers
(standing up for your beliefs, revealing a secret, going against what the crowd is doing, greeting a new person, changing your image, etc.)
- Educational:** causing a risk in being prepared for the future
(dropping out of school, sluffing class, not completing assignments, being tardy, etc.)

People take risks for many reasons: to make money, to gain respect in the eyes of others, not knowing the facts about what they are doing, to meet personal goals, because of personal beliefs, for personal gain, etc. Risk-taking can be positive, too. Some examples of positive risk-taking are:

- not being afraid to make unusual contributions to a group
- being unique and individualistic
- setting a goal and reaching it
- learning a new skill
- doing something beyond your expectations

Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

TYPES OF RISKS

Directions: Given the risk categories below, state the risk involved with each category.

Physical _____

Psychological _____

Drug/Alcohol _____

Legal _____

Financial _____

Social _____

Educational _____

Place each of the behaviors listed below in its proper risk category(ies).

- Criticizing someone _____
- Lending money to someone _____
- Hang gliding _____
- Breaking up with someone _____
- Sluffing class _____
- Stealing _____
- Drinking alcoholic beverages _____
- Telling someone else's secret _____
- Downhill skiing _____
- Getting a credit card _____
- Breaking curfew _____
- Carrying a weapon _____
- Hitchhiking _____
- Smoking cigarettes _____
- Running away _____
- Dropping out of school _____

Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

TYPES OF RISKS - TEACHER KEY

Directions: Given the risk categories below, state the risk involved with each category.

Physical CAUSING HARM OR INJURY TO YOURSELF

Psychological CAUSING EMOTIONAL HARM OR INJURY TO YOURSELF

Drug/Alcohol CAUSING PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL HARM TO SELF OR OTHERS

Legal CAUSING RISKS WITH THE LAW

Financial CAUSING A RISK TO PERSONAL RESOURCES

Social CAUSING A RISK OF REJECTION BY YOUR PEERS

Educational CAUSING A RISK IN BEING PREPARED FOR THE FUTURE

Place each of the behaviors listed below in it's proper risk category.

- Criticizing someone SOCIAL
- Lending money to someone FINANCIAL
- Hang gliding PHYSICAL
- Breaking up with someone PSYCHOLOGICAL
- Sluffing class EDUCATIONAL
- Stealing LEGAL
- Drinking alcoholic beverages DRUG/ALCOHOL (LEGAL)
- Telling someone else's secret SOCIAL
- Downhill skiing PHYSICAL
- Getting a credit card FINANCIAL
- Breaking curfew PSYCHOLOGICAL
- Carrying a weapon LEGAL
- Hitchhiking PHYSICAL
- Smoking cigarettes PHYSICAL
- Running away PSYCHOLOGICAL/LEGAL/SOCIAL
- Dropping out of school EDUCATIONAL

THE ALLIGATOR STORY

Once upon a time, there was a beautiful village girl called Abigail. She lived in a peaceful village where life was simple and decision making was very easy. The only problem she had to face daily was that of not venturing too close to the rivers. The rivers contained an overabundant supply of alligators (which could pose a threat to her very existence)! Abigail loved Will, who was a handsome trader of the village.

One day, Will decided to go to a neighboring island to hunt. A monsoon swept the islands and caused flooding on the small island. All the boats in the village were swept away except for two. Abigail was worried about Will. She feared for his life as he was stranded on the island. She had to find out if he was alright. She approached Ivan, the owner of one of the boats that was saved. She told Ivan of her dilemma and asked him if he could take her to the island to see if Will was okay. Ivan told Abigail that he did not want to become involved in such affairs. Abigail walked away discouraged.

Sinbad was her only hope and the only one left to help her. She once again told her story and asked if he would take her to the island to see Will. Sinbad told her he would on one condition--she had to spend the night with him. Abigail was horrified to think that he would suggest such a thing. She would betray her true love--Will. She walked away, depressed that she could not help her true love. Several days went by and the condition of Will was still not certain. She grew desperate as the days passed.

Abigail decided to yield to the proposal of Sinbad in the interest of Will. Abigail spent the night with Sinbad. The next day, Sinbad took Abigail to the island. She found Will safe and ran into his waiting arms.

Will and Abigail had no secrets between them so she told him what she had to do in order to rescue him from the island. Will was horrified and shocked that she would resort to such a thing. He ordered her out of his sight. He never wanted to see her again.

Abigail was devastated. She could not believe what was happening. When she arrived back at the village, she told her friend, Slug, what had happened. He got so angry that he and Sinbad took Abigail back to the island. When Slug saw Will, he beat the tar out of him. The last thing Will saw before he passed out was Abigail laughing violently at him.

Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

ALLIGATOR STORY

Directions: After listening to the story, break into five or six groups. Your task is to rank each individual from bad (1) to worst (5). Use the chart below to record the group rankings.

- _____ ABIGAIL: revenge, sleeping with someone
- _____ WILL: unforgiving
- _____ IVAN: did not get involved
- _____ SINBAD: offered an immoral proposal
- _____ SLUG: assault

Groups:	1	2	3	4	5	6
ABIGAIL						
WILL						
IVAN						
SINBAD						
SLUG						

Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

A BARGAIN WITH THE DEVIL

By Chris Moore

There once was a man, whom we shall call Harry, who wanted to live forever. One day, Harry was approached by the devil who was willing to grant his wish for immortality on earth with one minor stipulation. He would have to give his soul to the devil. The man immediately jumped at the chance for such an opportunity.

"How will I know if I can live forever?" asked Harry.

"Well," said the devil, "try it and see!"

"Try what?" asked Harry.

"Try jumping off of that cliff over there," replied the evil one.

As you might guess, Harry was a bit nervous about the thoughts of jumping off a two hundred-foot cliff. With a little coaxing from the devil, Harry took a deep breath and plunged head first down the rocky side to what he thought was his death. But to Harry's surprise, he landed without the slightest jar to his person. Harry was shocked. It took him by such surprise that he shook uncontrollably with laughter.

The new "Superman" ran home to tell his wife of his good fortune. Upon hearing the incredible story, Harry's wife couldn't bring herself to believe it.

Harry said, "I'll prove it to you. See that car coming down the street? I'll jump in front of it!" Before Harry's wife could restrain him, he flung his body before the speeding car. His wife screamed and shielded her eyes. But to her disbelief, Harry stood up and walked away laughing. The man driving the car swooned in shock!

Harry became obsessed with what to try next. He quit his job and did nothing with himself except decide what daring feat he could accomplish. After a year, Harry was quite bored. He had tried every stunt there was to try except one--THE ELECTRIC CHAIR! He had to see how this stunt felt. He had a plan. He would kill his wife, and ask to be put in the electric chair. Harry proceeded to carry out his scheme. As planned, the police came to arrest him, the court awarded him a lawyer, and he was sent to prison. The lawyer told Harry that there was nothing to worry about--he would handle everything. Harry said, "I want to be sentenced to the electric chair and that is final!"

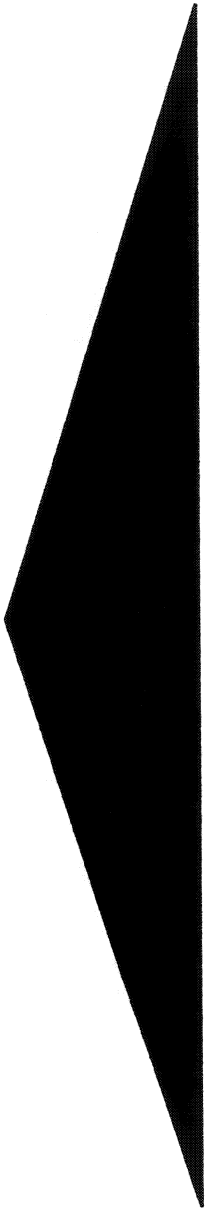
A BARGAIN WITH THE DEVIL - CONT'D

The day of the trial came. The jury heard all of the facts and information. Finally they deliberated and came up with the verdict of LIFE IN PRISON! The lawyer was shouting for joy, but Harry was sobbing.

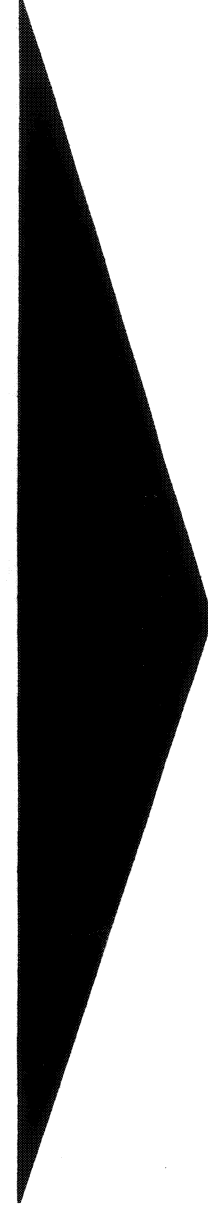
As Harry was alone and locked in a cell, the devil came to visit him. "Well, Harry," he said laughingly, "what did you do with your immortality? I'll answer that for you," he went on. "You spent it only on your personal thrills and satisfaction. Many great men would love to have a chance like you had, and they would have used it to benefit mankind. You wasted it, Harry, and you will continue to waste it forever. Well, Harry, the best and the last laugh is on you as you sit here doing nothing in this cold, dark, cell--FOREVER!"

Thought Questions

1. Name some resources that individuals have available to them.
2. What resource did Harry have an unlimited amount of?
3. Does anyone ever have an unlimited supply of resources? Why or why not?
4. Why would wasting resources be a case of poor judgment?
5. List five (5) things that an individual can do to conserve personal resources.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.



**WE'RE NOT BORN
WINNERS OR LOSERS;
WE'RE BORN CHOOSERS.**



**DECISIONS AND CONSEQUENCES
SAMPLE SITUATIONS**

SITUATION 1: Your parents leave you alone for the weekend. They agree that you may have one friend over to spend the night, but instruct you NOT to have any other friends in the house. Word travels and your friends beg you to just let a few friends come over for a party. After all, what could happen?
What will you do? How can you handle the situation?

SITUATION 2: You are in a store and your friends want you to put a small, unpaid-for item in your backpack.
What will you do? How can you handle the situation?

SITUATION 3: You have been invited to a party where there will be plenty of alcoholic beverages and drugs. You haven't ever indulged in these things because you are a little bit afraid to, but you are curious about what would really happen. When you get to the party, everyone else is indulging and begin to pressure you to join in the fun.
What will you do? How can you handle the situation?

SITUATION 4: The clerk at the store is extremely slow and you are in a hurry. You don't know him/her, but you do wish he/she would move a little faster. It is tempting to make a rude remark as you check out--it's certainly deserved.
What will you do? How can you handle the situation?

SITUATION 5: Your boy/girl friend is pressuring you to have sex, but you really don't want to.
What will you do? How can you handle the situation?

Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

DECISIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

Directions: Listen to the examples read by the teacher.
Brainstorm possible choices for each situation and then select one.
Write your decision in the space provided.
Then list all of the possible consequences that may occur as a
result of the decision you made.

Remember! "We're Not Born Winners or Losers;
We're Born Choosers."

SITUATION	POSSIBLE CHOICES	DECISION MADE	POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES
NO. 1	_____ _____ _____	_____	_____ _____ _____
NO. 2	_____ _____ _____	_____	_____ _____ _____
NO. 3	_____ _____ _____	_____	_____ _____ _____
NO. 4	_____ _____ _____	_____	_____ _____ _____
NO. 5	_____ _____ _____	_____	_____ _____ _____

RISKY BUSINESS

According to studies by the National Safe Workplace Institute in Chicago, an estimated 240 people die every workday in the U.S.A. as a result of job-related accidents. Most workers in dangerous jobs aren't even aware of the risks they are taking by working at them. Below is a list of occupations ranked according to order of risk. The list was compiled from the study by J. Paul Leigh of San Jose State University.

Blue-Collar Jobs

White-Collar Jobs

Rank	Job	Deaths Per 100,000	Rank	Job	Deaths Per 100,000
1.	Loggers	129.0	1.	Airplane pilots	97.0
2.	Asbestos workers	78.7	2.	Office helper/messengers	14.5
3.	Structural metal workers	72.0	3.	Retail sales managers	12.3
4.	Powerline/cable installer	50.7	4.	Geologists	9.5
5.	Firefighters	48.8	5.	Agricultural scientists	9.0
6.	Garbage collectors	40.0	6.	Vehicle dispatchers	8.3
7.	Truck drivers	39.6	7.	Physicists and astronomers	7.6
8.	Bulldozer operators	39.3	8.	Construction inspectors	7.6
9.	Earth driller	38.8	9.	Meter readers	7.4
10.	Craft apprentices	37.5	10.	Engineers	7.3
11.	Miners	37.2	11.	Public administrators	7.2
12.	Boilermakers	35.0	12.	Weighers	7.1
13.	Taxicab drivers	34.0	13.	Science technicians	6.7
14.	Construction workers	33.5	14.	Coaches/PE teachers	6.6
15.	Millers	33.3	15.	Private administrators	6.6
16.	Surveyors' helpers	33.3	16.	Real-estate agents	6.6
17.	Sheriffs and bailiffs	32.4	17.	Pharmacists	6.5
18.	Roofers and slaters	31.9	18.	Athletes	6.5
19.	Metal molders	26.6	19.	Surveyors	6.1
20.	Flight attendants	23.0	20.	Building superintendents	5.8
21.	Oilers and greasers	22.5	21.	Veterinarian	5.2
22.	Road machine operators	20.9	22.	Assessors	5.2
23.	Crane operators	19.3	23.	Restaurant managers	5.1
24.	Police and detectives	17.5	24.	Computer specialists	5.0
25.	Bakers	16.9	25.	Insurance adjustors	4.9
26.	Engravers	16.6	26.	Sales managers	4.7
27.	Millwrights	15.5	27.	Union officials	4.6
28.	Sawyers	15.4	28.	Funeral directors	4.5
29.	Tailors	15.0	29.	Architects	4.3
30.	Forge/hammer operators	14.2	30.	School administrators	4.2
31.	Farm machine operators	14.2	31.	Chemists	4.2
32.	Plasterers	14.2	32.	Inspectors	3.9
33.	Ship fitter	14.2	33.	Ticket agents	3.7
34.	Butchers	13.8	34.	Advertising agents	3.6
35.	Loom Operators	12.5	35.	Editors and reporters	3.6

Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

RISKY BUSINESS QUESTIONS

1. What is meant by "blue-collar jobs"? _____

2. What is meant by "white-collar jobs"? _____

3. What blue collar job has the most risk to a worker's life? _____
Why is it so risky? _____
4. What blue collar job would have the least amount of risk? _____
Why? _____
5. Why would a coach or PE teacher have a risk to health? _____

6. What would an insurance adjustor do that would cause risk to health?

7. Of all of the occupations on the list, which ones would you be the most interested in pursuing? _____

Why? _____
What are the risk rates for those occupations? _____
What risks would be involved? _____

8. What would critical thinking have to do with choosing an occupation?

9. If you are in a high-risk job, how could you use good judgment to lower the rate of your risks? _____

10. Should an individual consider the health risks of a job before selecting it? _____
Why? _____
11. What are the risk rates for your parents' occupations? _____

What risks are involved with their jobs? _____

JUDGMENT SITUATIONS

Situation 1: In Victor Hugo's novel, Les Miserables, the main character, Jean Valjean, is an escaped convict living under an assumed name. (He was sent to prison for life because he stole a 10-cent loaf of bread to feed his sister's starving children.) He has built up a successful business in which he employs most of his fellow townspeople. He becomes the mayor and a public benefactor. Then Jean Valjean learns that another man, a feeble-minded old beggar, has been mistakenly identified as the escaped convict (himself), and has been arrested. The beggar will certainly be sent to prison to serve the life sentence originally given to Jean Valjean. Should he leave all he has worked to obtain, and put all his workers out of a job?...or...should he let an innocent man spend his entire life in prison for something he did not do?

Situation 2: In Tennessee William's play, Suddenly Last Summer, a wealthy widow promises a large amount of money to build and support a much needed hospital on the condition that a certain female patient, who is quite sane, be committed as insane and have a lobotomy performed on her so that she will never make any trouble by revealing facts embarrassing to the wealthy widow. One life would be ruined, but many others would be saved with the new hospital. Should the money for the hospital be accepted on the widow's condition?...or... should the donation not be accepted?

Situation 3: In Sinclair Lewis' novel, Arrowsmith, Dr. Arrowsmith has perfected a new vaccine which, if used, will end an outbreak of the plague in the West Indies. If he uses the vaccine on everyone, most or all of the people will be cured. But his vaccine will not be accepted by the medical and scientific communities unless he divides the infected tribe in half, giving the vaccine to only one half and nothing to the other half. If he gives vaccine only to some, thousands of other people will needlessly die. Doesn't he have to do this in order to prove to the medical and scientific communities that it was the vaccine which saved the infected people's lives? Should Dr. Arrowsmith agree to dividing the tribe in half and saving one half?...or... Should Dr. Arrowsmith make his vaccine unavailable until everyone can have access to it?

Situation 4: In the novel, The Client, by John Grisham, an 11-year-old boy knows some information that the FBI needs to convict a mafia killer. In the process of gaining this information, his younger brother goes into a trauma-caused semi-comatose state and needs special 24-hour medical attention. If he tells the FBI the information they need, the mafia has threatened to kill his family. If he doesn't tell the FBI, they will put him in a youth lock-up facility. Should the boy tell?...or...should he not tell?

WAS IT WORTH IT?

By Chris Moore

Dan was a handsome senior at his high school. There was one thing that Dan liked more than girls and that was skiing. If you wanted to find Dan during the ski season, he would be up on the slopes daily. His goal was to become the best "hot dogger" ever. To reach this goal, he practiced continually.

After graduation, Dan had the opportunity to go back East to teach "hot dogging" at one of the famous ski resorts. This was the opportunity he had been waiting for all of his life. He weighed the pros and cons, but because his mind was already set to go, the cons lost.

The East was an exciting place for Dan. By then, Dan had the usual skier's tan and you know what that does to a girl! Dan was immediately a hit at the resort. Why not? He was young, handsome and very daring.

Dan had to keep up his image, so the stunts that he would try on the slopes became more daring and more risky. One day, as Dan was skiing in his usual devil-may-care manner, he somehow miscalculated one of his jumps and landed in such a way that it broke his back.

For months, Dan lay in a hospital bed in pain while the doctors hoped that they could spare his life. After many operations and much financial burden, the doctors stated that Dan would live but would be paralyzed for life. He would not be able to move from the waist down.

Dan was devastated and sank into a deep depression. He had to readjust his whole life. His home had to be reconstructed to suit his wheelchair and needs. He would need help dressing, getting out of the wheelchair, even going to the bathroom, showering, etc. This was most humiliating for Dan who always prided himself on being independent. His social life came to an abrupt halt as Dan couldn't drive a car either. He was alone and lonely.

Dan pulled through this depressive period. He pursued another hobby that he always had an interest in. It wasn't exactly what Dan wanted out of life, but it was something that he could do.

Dan often thinks about the accident and has decided that the risk of "hot dogging" was one that he had to take. Someone once told him, "If you don't stick your neck out, you'll never get ahead in life!" Was it worth it?

(Based on a true story.)

Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

WAS IT WORTH IT?

1. What category of risk is hot dogging? _____

2. Do you think Dan made the right decision? _____
Why? _____

3. In what part of the story did Dan use poor judgment? _____

4. If you wanted to become a "hot dogger", how could you lessen the risk to your health? _____

5. Do you agree with the quote at the end of the story? _____
Why? or Why not? _____

6. List some other risk-taking behaviors that teens sometimes become involved in and what some of the consequences might be:

RISK-TAKING BEHAVIORS

POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

7. Put a Yes or No after each behavior to show whether it is worth the risk or not.