Duty or Obligation

One example of a situation in which someone would be motivated by a sense of duty or obligation would be helping taking care of your elderly parents or, in my case, grandfather. My grandfather was very debilitated and ill the last six months of his life. My grandmother was unable to care for him all by herself. As a result, our family took turns helping with his care. There were some members of the family that didn’t think it was fair to be asked to take time out of their lives to help with his care.

Another example that is motivated by obligation or duty would be accepting an extra task at your job and being expected to keep up with the extra responsibilities that comes with it. I was asked to become the CAP coordinator for our departments Blood Gas Lab. CAP is the agency that accredits the Laboratory as a whole in our hospital.

Expected Consequences

An example of a situation that is motivated by the expected consequences would be choosing to not to talk on your cell phone while driving an automobile. Keeping my attention on the road helps keep everyone safer.

Another example of a situation motivated based on consequences would be going on vacation with your best friend and letting her purchase your plane tickets knowing that you couldn’t pay her back due to a cut back of hours at work.

Choosing to help take care of my ailing grandfather was the best decision because it was my duty. The reasons why I felt that it was my duty was because my grandfather and grandmother took care of me and my cousins when we were children, they babysat us while our parents were working and I spent the night with them as much as I stayed at home. My grandparents also have babysat my children for me. They took care of our every need while they kept us from the day we were born. My grandfather was a Baptist minister and he instilled in me the morals I have today, one of those being do unto others as you would have them do unto you. I felt that if he could give me so much of his time and love then why couldn’t I do the same when the time came for him to need my help. It didn’t matter the time of day, if you called and needed help he was there, no questions asked. He gave feely of his time to help others and I felt that is was my duty to do the same for him. If I had chosen my choice based on the expected consequnces and my grandfather knew that was why I helped, he would’ve felt like an even bigger burden to everyone around him. My grandmother would have also felt like a burden to everyone because she couldn’t care for my grandfather without help.

Choosing to go on vacation with my best friend knowing that I don’t have the money to repay her the plane fare would not the best choice for me to make. When my friend asks for her money and I cant repay her, she will be upset. A result of this may be that our friend ship will suffer. She will not trust me as she once did. If I would have made the decision based on my duty and told her the truth the outcome could have been different. Choosing based on duty and telling her the truth before she bought the plane ticket probably would have saved our friendship turmoil and the trust would still be there. Once trust is lost, it is hard to regain.