Clarencia Morley

Instructor Name

Course Number

22nd January, 2020

A Time You Had to Do Something Wrong

No one likes to talk about their mistakes because it is really difficult to discuss our wrong decisions that we made knowingly. I remember when I had to do the same when I was in high school. I made the mistake of never taking my high school seriously. This is because I was too burdened with my family’s responsibilities and had to take care of my siblings. It was high time that I decided to work and earn money to support my family. So I started a job in a grocery store near my house. I used to work there for eight hours daily and had to buy groceries and do other household chores as my mother was unable to support us because of Alzheimer’s disease and she had to stay in the house all the time despite being. She needed help in her daily activities like eating and walking. She could not even recognize her family (“Caring for Someone with Alzheimer’s”). I started taking responsibility for each and everything.

At that time, I was in high school and end term exams were around the corner. As I used to work eight hours daily and then had to manage other things at home as well, so I usually could not spare enough time to prepare for my exams. I was afraid that I would fail the test and end up repeating my class. I did not want to get poor grades, keeping in view my current financial situation. Above all, I had the responsibility of my family who were dependent upon me.

I and my friend used to work in the same store and went to the same school. I tried my best to prepare for my exams but I could not cover the entire course due to shortage of time. I had to leave a few chapters and all I could do at that moment was to pray to God for his help. Whereas, my friend was relaxed and I wondered why as he too had not prepared for the exam. I asked him and he told me that he had found a short cut to success and he did not want to end up like me, cramming all the material, a night before the exam.

So, it was my exam day and I was not well prepared for it. I desperately wanted to pass my exam so that I could get a better job. I was frustrated and confused. When our exam started, I figured out that I knew the answers to majority of the questions. I was happy and started my exam. Meanwhile, I looked at my friend and found out that he was cheating. I wanted to tell the teacher on duty but I could not do that. After all, he was my friend. How could I do that to him? Even at that time, I knew that I was doing wrong but I did not want to lose my best friend. During examination, I was scared and nervous because of my friend that he might get caught and get expelled from school. But soon the exam was over and we were free to go home.

I can never forget those exams because they cost me the most precious thing of my life: my conscience. I still cannot face the fact that I did not stop my friend from cheating in the exam. He was the one who always supported me in my hard times and directed me to the right path. But that day, he forgot all his moral values and chose the wrong path.

I still regret that mistake and want to fix it but that won’t be possible now. It was the only time I wanted to stop my friend from doing wrong but I could not and I think I should have stopped him. Cheating is not a short cut to success but it is the first step towards self-destruction. It is better to fail with honor than to win by cheating (“140 Sophocles Quotes - Inspirational Quotes at BrainyQuote”).

# **Works Cited:**

“140 Sophocles Quotes - Inspirational Quotes at BrainyQuote.” *BrainyQuote*, https://www.brainyquote.com/authors/sophocles-quotes. Accessed 22 Jan. 2020.

“Caring for Someone with Alzheimer’s: Our Guide and Tips.” *Medical News Today*, https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/326374.php. Accessed 22 Jan. 2020.