

Noble Cause Corruption

by Report Report

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Student's Name

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Instructor's Name

Normally, police must have probable cause to be able to search a car under any circumstances. In broader terms, there must be evidence or facts that insinuate that the suspects have committed a crime. However, unconstitutional policing has been a norm for most police officers during their law enforcement. Noble cause corruption is referred to as a form of corruption that is committed for the good of the community. Consequently, police misuse their powers and commit these offenses with the belief that the outcomes will be good. Although these actions help curb crime activities to some extent, not all of them have good outcomes since some of the suspects are deemed innocent in the end. The scenario in question poses a challenge since I would have to choose between following the constitution and performing an unethical act that would involve searching the vehicle without a warrant (Caldero, 2014).

The action of searching the car without the permission of the two individuals will be violating their rights. The fact that there is no outstanding warrant for the two suspects makes it unconstitutional to search the vehicle since it would mean that I lack probable cause. Assuming I order the two individuals to get outside as opposed to their will and happen to find drugs in the car, there still would be some consequences for my actions. The fact that I searched the vehicle without permission would make me corrupt since I would have misused my authority as a traffic officer. An officer's hunch is not an adequate reason to search a vehicle because it does not offer enough proof. From the information obtained after running the driver's license, it is clear that the two suspects had been involved in drug-related offenses in the past. The probability of the two individuals to have possession of drugs in the car would be very high (Martinelli, 2019).

Further, the fact that the two individuals are in a school vicinity poses a major threat to the students since they might become the consumers of these drugs. Also, the issue of teenagers being sold heroin in the big city has been on the rise hence making it difficult to ignore my

instinct. Therefore, failing to search the vehicles would also be unethical since I would not be able to prevent the individuals from selling drugs to the students. The action I would have taken would be noble cause corruption which has become common in the streets. Noble cause corruption helps reduce crimes in the community. The greater evil of my actions is that the individuals may sue me for violating their rights by searching them without probable cause. The individuals might opt to sue me for damages and paint a bad picture of the police department. Also, it goes against the police ethics that state that police should follow and respect the constitution which includes the search of vehicles only when there is probable cause. Due to this fact, I would have committed an act of corruption which might make me suffer some consequences including penalties and serving a jail term (Caldero, 2014).

The lesser evil of my actions would be that I was able to seizure drugs from the two individuals. The fact that these two individuals had been carrying drugs would be an indication that they were targeting the teenagers in the high school vicinity. Allowing criminals to sell drugs to school children would be unethical since it makes them drop out of school or even start to indulge in criminal activities to sustain their addiction. Therefore, my actions will have saved the lives of these teenagers from becoming drug addicts. Also, apprehending the two individuals would mean that I have done an excellent job of reducing drug traffickers from the streets. The fact that there was no warrant for the arrest of the two individual is evidence that they had avoided being caught for a long time. It would be a commendable job to the one to bring them into custody and ensure that criminal activities have been kept at a minimal (Martinelli, 2019).

The practice of going against the law or rather the norms in the police tasks helps the world become safer since most criminals are apprehended this way. Also, most of the criminals are quite aware that they cannot be searched without a warrant or probable cause; hence they end

up evading apprehension by the police. Therefore the police are forced to choose between being ethical and following the constitution and violating the rights of individuals that they deem to be a danger to the community.

Reference

Caldero, M. A. (2014). *Police ethics: The corruption of noble cause*. Routledge.

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