



Philosophie, Ethik für Sek II

Filosofix

8. Drowning child

3:00 Minuten

- 00:06** Imagine, you're a famous professor. You are all dressed up, in a new designer suit, and luxurious shoes. Your lecture starts in 15 minutes.
- 00:19** On the way to the lecture, you pass a pond.
- 00:24** But what's going on here? Without thinking you jump into the pond and save the child.
- 00:39** Your suit and shoes are ruined, and you can forget your lecture. But it's very clear in your mind that it was the only right thing to do. Of course the child's life is more important than the suit, the shoes, and the successful lecture.
- 00:56** After your act of heroism, you come home and find a letter in your mailbox from an aid organisation. It is asking you to donate to starving children in Nigeria. Ten francs will feed a child for an entire month. Without the 10 francs, the boy will die. Do you donate?
- 01:19** No? You won't donate 10 francs for a child in Africa, but you'll jump in a pond and not think twice about sacrificing expensive designer clothes to save a child's life?
- 01:31** But *there is a difference*, you say.
- 01:34** But why? Are African children too far away?
- 01:42** Let's assume that one of your friends is on a safari in Africa with his son.
- 01:53** His son is injured and his life is in danger. Your friend asks you to send money right away, so that the child can be treated in a local hospital. You'd send the money – wouldn't you? So geographical distance doesn't make a difference.
- 02:15** Or maybe you don't donate because you aren't sure that your money will actually reach the starving child. Perhaps it could fall into the wrong hands?
- 02:29** But if you send money for your friend's child, you still couldn't be sure if it would be seized by corrupt officials in the process or not. Would that stop you from sending money to your friend?
- 02:44** It's clear to you that you had to save the drowning child. – Do you also have to donate to charity?