



## 2MC - Stop Sign

It's 2 a.m. and you are out with some friends. You are driving. The roads seem deserted. You come to a stop sign. Do you stop? Why or why not?

### Takeaway Lessons:

- 1) **Rationalization.** It's easy to rationalize that it won't hurt anyone--even you, if you do not stop at 2 a.m.. Think about what would happen if everyone did this, though, and its effect on the society. How would traffic be affected?
- 2) **Habits.** Make stopping a habit, so it becomes instinctive. This is an effective way to avoid trouble. Many bad habits start with small steps; incrementalism can lead to places one never intended to go. Developing habits is like developing professional responsibility muscle.
- 3) **Drawing the Line.** Knowing where to draw the line is important. If it's an emergency with a person's health/life is at risk, the situation may be different than if you are avoiding following the law for your own convenience/expedience.
- 4) **Compliance vs. Ethics vs. Professional Responsibility.** Stopping because it's the law and to avoid getting caught is a compliance perspective. Stopping because the community expects it and you do not want to hurt anyone is an ethical outlook. Stopping because it's a habit is approaching this from the perspective of professional responsibility and building good professional responsibility muscle.

### Issues

It's the law  
Possible consequences  
Community norms

### Rules and Regulations

Rules of the Road  
Your family rules about use of the car  
Insurance regulations  
Community norms

### Who is Affected?

You  
Your family  
Anyone your might hurt; their family  
Community norms/trust

### Questions

It it an emergency?  
How busy is the street?  
How often do police lurk here?  
How likely is it that you will get caught?  
Are you prepared to take the consequences?

### Resources

Memory of your driver's ed teacher's voice  
Rules of the Road  
Your internal values/compass  
Thinking through the consequences

### Options

Stop at the stop sign  
Do a rolling stop  
Run the stop sign