## Being a Lawyer, Becoming a Hero Download at:

www.teachinglegalethics.org/becoming-hero

7<sup>th</sup> International Legal Ethics Conference Fordham Law School, New York City July 14, 2016 11am Clark D. Cunningham

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www.ClarkCunningham.org
www.niftep.org
www.teachinglegalethics.org

### Carnegie Report

- •Students need **examples** of professional *ideals*
- Connected to *models* of ethical commitment
- And then reflect on their own
   emerging professional identity in
   relation to those ideals and models

### **Professional Responsibility: Heroes & Villains**

- Current course web site:
  - http://clarkcunningham.org/PR/index.htm
- History of the course
  - How to Explain Confidentiality
  - www.teachinglegalethics.org/how-explainconfidentiality
     Search "how to explain"
- Learning Professional Responsibility: the Way Forward
  - <u>www.teachinglegalethics.org/learningpr</u>
  - Search "way forward"

#### Four Component Model of Morality (FCM) (Rest, 1983)

Reasons (Predictors)

Moral Blindness

Faulty Reasoning

Inadequate Motivation

Ineffectiveness



**Professional Misconduct** 

www.teachinglegalethics.org/learningpr Search "way forward"

#### **Adapted from Four Component Model of Morality**

**Moral Capacity** Operational Definition (Predictors) • capacity to interpret ambiguous Awareness clues in real-life settings Mature • capacity to analyze moral issues and provide justifications for decisions reasoning capacity to internalize and give Commitment priority to professional values • capacity for **empathic interaction** Skill and problem solving **Effective Professional Conduct** 

### Joseph Campbell: The Power of Myth (179)

- Star Wars a very old story in a very new costume
- The hero called to adventure
- Facing trials and ordeals
- Returning with a boon for the community

### Being a Lawyer, Becoming a Hero – in progress

Chapter introductions at: <a href="https://www.teachinglegalethics.org/becoming-hero">www.teachinglegalethics.org/becoming-hero</a>

- Lt. Commander Charles Swift: Representing Osama bin Laden's Driver
- Suellyn Scarnecchia and the Baby Jessica Case
- Kapila Hingorani: Creating a Totally New Jurisprudence for the Disempowered
- Sonia Sotomayor: Being a Hero, Becoming a Lawyer
- Chief Gani Fawehinmi: Conscience of a Nation
- and ...

### Who is This?

- His father was a prominent civil servant
- His older brother was a successful lawyer
- He wanted to be a doctor but his father and brother persuaded him to be a lawyer
- He received the most prestigious legal education that was available
- Then observed the leading lawyers of his jurisdiction practice in court

## But then came his first case – in small claims court

- I was ashamed of myself,
- and decided not to take up any more cases
- until I had courage enough to conduct them."





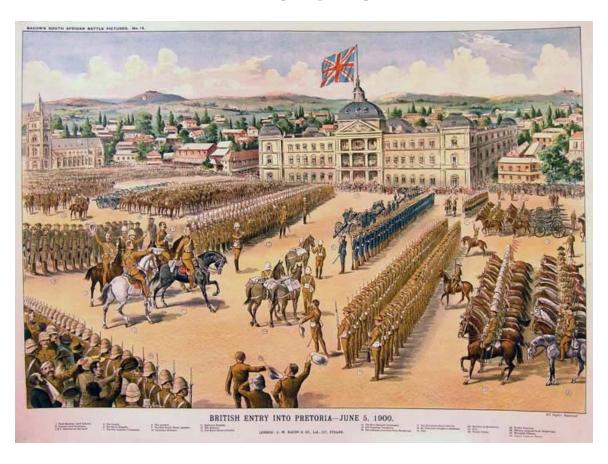
### Another client, another chance

- He thought his brother had sent him a white elephant.
- How far could he trust my ability and honesty?

# The opportunity to take responsibility

Abdulla Sheth asked me if I would go

### Pretoria



### On the cold, dark train platform

- "I had gone to South Africa only for a single case prompted by self-interest and curiosity.
- I was on the horns of a dilemma.

### Two courses were open to me.

• Or I might bear all hardships, and fulfil my engagement.

### Sleep was out of the question ...

- I must accomplish what I had undertaken.
- I must reach Pretoria, without minding insults and even assaults.

## Pretoria was my goal

but I did not get any sleep

## The Stage Coach

- "He was strong and I was weak.
- 'Man, let him alone. Don't beat him. He is not to blame. He is right.'
- Full powerpoint:

www.teachinglegalethics.org/lessonsgandhi Search "Gandhi"

### Thirteen Years Later

### September 11, 1906

- "Certificate of registration"
- Must present the certificate at all times on penalty of imprisonment
- Fingerprinting
- Police officers authorized to enter a private home and demand that the woman of the house produce her certificate even if her husband was not present

### Father: I assume you now regret choosing Dauntless

Tris: "How to be selfless. Often they're the same thing."



Tris: "There were some things I needed to learn." Her Abnegation father: "How to be brave?"

