

- a. In counter-example, there must be a generalization. In this exchange between the father and son, the son generalizes by saying “everybody else’s parents are letting them go” to prove that it would not be dangerous to let him go to the concert because all of the other parents who are letting their children go do not think it is dangerous, and the father presents an exception to the missing premise that all the parents who are letting their children go think that it is safe for them to attend the concert by mentioning the three teenagers that were killed in last summer’s concert and their parents thought it was safe for them to be there and that their parents should have not let them go to the concert because they died.
- b.
1. There are numerous factors that can affect the advancement of civilization. Similarly, different economic systems have different effects on different societies and civilizations. For example, assuming the advancement of civilization means social equality, the communist economic system ensured that every member of the public is equal to the others. One can argue that this is very important in every society – revolutions that happened in the middle east with the motto of social equality. In this case, one could say that communism is the best economic system. Assuming advancements are related to money, the economic system of medieval Europe ensured that wealth was accumulated by certain people. Those people were responsible for the advancements which were a huge leap forward. The productivity of the slaves and farmers at the time had to be high – just like that of people who work today, if not higher. In this case, we could say that the economic system of medieval Europe is the best economic system. Because we do not have a definite metric for “superior,” (it is vague) it is very difficult, if not impossible, to tell which economic system is “superior” to the rest.
  2. In a free country, people are allowed to practice their religious beliefs freely. People are allowed to do anything they want to do as long as they do not hurt other people. People are allowed to do whatever they want to do to anything that is theirs. Therefore, there should not be a law that allows interference between people and killing themselves as they are taking their OWN life.
  3. Engaging in such conversations really makes one test their beliefs as an adult. As a child, it helps form, strengthen, or change their beliefs. It also improves their abilities to support and prove an argument and disprove an argument. It teaches children how to listen, pay attention to what is said, understand it, ask meaningful questions, and poke at a weak argument. It engraves the ability to listen and have a respectful discussion – even if it’s about a controversial topic. Therefore, teachers in primary and secondary schools should encourage controversial political and ethical discussions in the classroom.

5. Lack of negotiation could result in worse situations for the government, the citizens in the situation, and the citizens that are not involved. If the government is not going to negotiate for the safety of its citizens and protect them no matter where they are and what the situation is, then there is no need for such a weak government. Being a weak government is going to hurt the government and its reputation locally and internationally. Therefore, governments should negotiate with terrorists in some cases such as this one.

6. One of the purposes of a government is to provide a good life for its citizens which includes artists, singers, and poets. Everyone needs support to grow. One of the ways that artists, singers, and poets pay the government back for its spending on them is through taxes. Another can be through income from tourism which might happen because people from another country might come to attend a concert, book signing or discussion, or see a beautiful painting done by a local artist. Therefore, not all art support programs should be eliminated.