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PHIL-103

Assignment 1

I have always been a rule-following child growing up, always believing that rules were placed there to be followed, not broken. Because of this, my “rebellious” experiences are quite limited. The most memorable act of rebellion that I can remember happened over this summer. A large group of friends and I were wandering through Central Park. The entire day was going along quite well, everyone was enjoying themselves. My parents had called me earlier in the day to remind me of my strict curfew hour; up until this day, I had always obeyed. During this day, one of my friends got approached by some shady individuals, in hindsight, it appeared to be a tourist trap. These people were highly manipulative and they saw us as walking moneybags. They forced their services upon us and tried to force us to pay. All of us felt overpowered by them as they were beginning to start a scene. By this point, the time I had left before my curfew was very limited and I had a decision to make, leave my friend and obey my curfew, or stand up for him and disobey my parents. I chose the latter. I personally declined their services and in turn, we did not pay. They ended up leaving once I started talking back to them. After this, park rangers saw us and began speaking to us, I told them what happened and they recommended to speak to the police. We took their advice and spoke to the police. This was a slight act of rebellion on my end since I disobeyed my curfew yet it was constructive since I was able to stand up for my friend and I was able to suppress my fear of standing up for others. I would do it again if the opportunity came up.