

**STORYTELLING FOR ETHICS PEDAGOGY** by Grace Ann Rosile & David Boje, New Mexico State University, 5/3/13

STORYTELLING not only allows us to make sense of the past, it perhaps more importantly allows us to draw conclusions about how current actions may create future outcomes. This future-orientation is especially relevant for ethical choices. Storytelling can be FUTURE-ORIENTED (in a future, past, present sequence).

“Antenarrative” is what exists before the story has an accepted beginning, middle and end. It is fragmented and dynamic. The antenarrative stage is where there is the most potential for change, it is a “bet” on the future.

Future-oriented storytelling: The Farmer Joe Story  
Aesop’s Fable: The Wolf and the Crane

What is a “moral of the story” from each of the 4 ethical perspectives listed below?

<p>BASIC INSTRUMENTAL ETHICS Outcome-Based</p> <p>“Whatever works” “whatever means gets job done” Instrumentalism – Machiavellian Aka situation, relativist ethics</p>	<p>DIALOGIC ANSWERABILITY ETHICS Proactive Process-Based</p> <p>Answerable to act if have the capacity and knowhow to intervene to bring about more ethical outcome Aka – ontological</p>
<p>KANTIAN CATEGORICAL ETHICS Rules-Based</p> <p>e.g. corporate codes of conduct e.g. don’t lie, cheat, steal, etc. Aka deontological &amp; transcendent values</p>	<p>VIRTUE ETHICS Value-Based</p> <p>Find middle path between deficient and excess “Virtue makes us aim at the right target, and practical wisdom makes us use the right means” (Aristotle)</p>

STORY ASPECTS	DECONSTRUCTION QUESTIONS	RE-STORYING
<b>VOICE</b>	Whose Voice is Dominant? Who Tells “THE” Story?	Find the Rebel Voice
<b>PLOT</b>	What is the Dominant Plot?	Deny the Plot
<b>BETWEEN-THE-LINES</b>	What is Unspoken but Implied?	Make the Implicit Explicit
<b>DUALISM</b>	What are the key terms? Do the terms have an opposite? Which is the Dominant Term?	Recognize the exceptions, Marginalized/Missing Terms
<b>HIERARCHY</b>	Which Term is Used First? Which Term is Better?	Reverse the Hierarchy
<b>MORAL/PRINCIPLE</b>	<i>So what</i> is the resituation?	What is the Moral of the Story?

**Trigger Question:** Tell the story of a time when you were UNFAIRLY TREATED, at work or at school. Deconstruct, then re-story, your story. Tell the ethical implications from each of the 4 perspectives above.

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