

APPENDIX D

DILEMMA CARDS

Dilemma #1

You and your friend have obtained permission to hunt pheasants on a large farm. Your friend is driving his pickup truck. Even though the farmer told you to drive only on established roads, your friend insists it is okay to drive across a field to get closer to a hunting area. He doesn't listen to your objections and starts to turn off the road into the field. You should:

- just go along with him; after all, he's the one driving and he's the one who will get into trouble.
- ask him to stop and then get out, telling him you won't be part of going against the farmer's instructions.
- ask him to stop and then get out and walk out ahead to make sure the ground isn't too soft to drive on.
- ask him to stop and point out the advantages of parking right where you are and walking across the field—there might even be a pheasant out there.
- other.

Dilemma #2

You are hunting elk in steep mountainous country. You are tired from all the hiking you have done so far this morning. However, you push yourself to get close enough for an uphill, cross-canyon shot at a four-point bull elk, still feeding in an open meadow but about to disappear into the thick trees. You find a spot which allows you to shoot prone, using your knapsack as a rest. The distance is about 200 yards. You shoot. The elk shows no sign of being hit; it takes off running down the meadow and out of sight around the ridge. You should:

- before shooting, assess whether you are too tired to follow through with the entire hunt—including the possibility of following a wounded animal.
- continue on your hike up the mountain but keep a sharp eye over in the direction where the elk was when you shot at it.
- hike down the mountain and go home because you're too tired to cross over the canyon and hike up to the meadow where the elk was. Maybe you can come back tomorrow to see if the elk was hit.
- even though you are already very tired, you hike down and across the canyon and climb up to the spot where the elk was when you shot, and then you follow the elk's tracks around the ridge, looking for blood or any sign that the elk was hit with your shot.
- other

APPENDIX D (CONTINUED)

Dilemma #3

When you were loading the nice whitetail buck you shot this afternoon into the pickup truck, you got a large smear of blood all the way up one side of your jeans. It's been a long day and now it's late afternoon and you have a long drive home. Your dad says you'll stop at a restaurant to eat supper, which sounds great to you because you are so hungry. However, you look at your bloody jeans and:

- ask your dad if you could just go to a drive-through window at a fast-food place rather than go inside a restaurant where other people might see how bloody you look.
- decide not to worry about how you look. After all, most people around here are used to seeing hunters, even ones who look pretty dirty.
- tell your dad you are not hungry and just want to go home.
- think, "This is cool. With this blood on my pants I'm looking like a real hunter now. Let's eat."

Dilemma #4

Hunting in an area where only antlered buck deer are legal to shoot, you see a three-point buck within easy shooting range but it disappears into the brush before you could take aim. Suddenly you see a deer moving in the brush where the buck disappeared. You can't see its head, only its body. You should:

- shoot quickly before it disappears again.
- wait a few seconds before shooting to make sure there isn't more than one deer and you might be looking at the wrong one.
- whistle at it to see if it will stop.
- hold your fire until you're absolutely sure the deer you're planning to shoot is a legal antlered buck.
- other.

APPENDIX D (CONTINUED)

Dilemma #5

After getting permission from the landowner for you and your brother to hunt on private land on opening day, your best friend calls you and says he/she would like to go hunting with you. You should:

- tell your friend, "Sure, come along—the more hunters the better."
- explain to your friend that you have obtained permission only for you and your brother— isn't there someone else he can hunt with that day?
- suggest that your friend obtain permission from the same landowner, if possible, so that all of you would have permission to hunt on that land.
- see if your brother could hunt somewhere else—then it would be okay for your friend to take his place on the private land.
- other.

Dilemma #6

Your cousin calls to tell you that she was out hunting with her dad and was successful in bagging a "huge" buck deer. When you get over to her house, you see her "huge" deer is really a small buck. You should:

- laugh and tell her that her buck is not huge; she should see the big buck you shot last year.
- ask her what part of it she thought was so huge.
- tell her you're really excited for her and that her buck has a really big body
- tell her congratulations on getting a wonderful deer and ask her to tell you about the hunt
- other.

APPENDIX D (CONTINUED)

Dilemma #7

Your good friend loves the out-of-doors but has never hunted or even been around hunting situations. Since he/she recently has expressed an interest in your hunting, you think you have a chance to introduce your friend to hunting and make a favorable impression. You should:

- invite your friend to wear some hunter-orange clothing and go deer hunting with you on a nice day, even though he/she doesn't have a license or a gun. You go into an area where you have a good chance of seeing some deer and possibly other wildlife. If you see a legal deer, you pass it up.
- invite your friend to come along to help drag out a deer you shot earlier that day.
- invite your friend to go with you even though he/she wouldn't be carrying a gun, then try to shoot at as many legal deer as you can.
- tell your friend all you know about hunting, especially all the details of how to kill and field dress an animal.
- other.

Dilemma #8

After tracking a big buck over two ridges and finally getting a good shot and killing it, you realize just how far away you are from the road. After tagging and cleaning out the animal properly, you're feeling very tired, and it's getting late in the day. You should:

- cut off the antlers and some of the better pieces of meat that you can carry and head back, leaving the rest of the deer for the coyotes and birds.
- hang up the deer as well as you can, making sure its body is off the ground to cool, then make good mental notes of where your deer is and how you can find it again. Then go home and return the next morning with some help to carry out the entire deer.
- cut off the hind quarters and hang up the rest of the deer. Carry the hind quarters over your shoulders as you walk out. Make a good mental note of how to get back tomorrow to carry out the rest of the deer.
- get mad at yourself for killing the deer so far from the road and then start dragging the deer in the direction of the road even though you know it will be way after dark before you get there, and you really don't feel like you can do it.
- other.

APPENDIX D (CONTINUED)

Dilemma #9

You are hunting on a ranch where you have had permission to hunt for the past three years. You know where you can drive and which gates are always open or closed. On this particular day you find that a gate which has always been closed is now open. The rancher's cattle are walking through the open gate. You should:

- since the gate has always been closed, you suspect another hunter has left it open, so you close it.
- since the common rule about gates is, "leave gates the way you find them," you drive through the gate and leave it open.
- since you have never seen that gate open, you wonder if the cattle really are supposed to be going through it, so you turn around, go back to the ranch house, and ask the rancher if he/she wants the gate left open.
- other.

Dilemma #10

As you and your friend arrive at the spot where you like to hunt grouse, you see two other hunters walking along the line of brush that you normally hunt. From previous experience, you know the only good hunting is along that brush and especially at a spring about a half-mile beyond the two hunters. You should:

- leave and go somewhere else since the other hunters were here first.
- quickly take another road that gets you closer to the spring. If you hurry, you could hunt that area before the other hunters get there.
- go ahead and hunt, but take another route around the brush, even though past experience says it won't be as good hunting.
- go ahead and hunt your normal area. You and your friend are fast walkers; maybe you can get ahead of the other hunters.
- other.

BEYOND FAIR CHASE TEST

Hunter Ethics

Circle the letter representing the single best answer for each of the eight multiple choice questions.

1. You see a deer in the woods at close range. It looks like a buck, but you can't see any antlers because some brush is in the way. Only antlered bucks are legal to shoot. You should:
 - a) Shoot quickly—a deer won't stand there looking at you for very long.
 - b) Shoot carefully because a nice buck is very difficult to get.
 - c) Don't shoot until you have positively seen an antler.
 - d) Base your decision to shoot on the size of the animal (bucks are generally larger than does).

2. The most important measure of hunting success is:
 - a) how many animals you have killed
 - b) how you feel about yourself, your decisions and your accomplishments
 - c) how large your trophy is
 - d) how your success compares to that of your friends

3. As citizens of the United States, we:
 - a) have one of the greatest hunting opportunities in the world
 - b) have the freedom to hunt but have less wildlife than other countries
 - c) have very little hunting opportunity compared to other countries
 - d) have hunted too much and greatly reduced the numbers of most animals

4. An ethic is:
 - a) a collection of moral principles or values associated with a particular culture or group
 - b) what is right and wrong in conduct
 - c) rules of conduct recognized in respect to a particular group or culture
 - d) all of the above

5. Approximately what percentage of our population in the United States are hunters?
 - a) 90%
 - b) 50%
 - c) 10%
 - d) 2%

6. The objective of being prepared to hunt is:
 - a) to do well in the hunting contest
 - b) to become familiar with the places you hunt, the animals that live there, and the way you should react in hunting situations
 - c) to improve your success in killing wildlife
 - d) all of the above

7. An ethical hunter who has successfully taken a big-game animal will:
 - a) display it proudly on the way home for everyone to see
 - b) look for ways to gain recognition for his/her hunting skills
 - c) transport it home in a way that doesn't offend other people
 - d) all of the above

8. An ethical hunter:
 - a) appreciates the opportunity to hunt
 - b) respects wild animals
 - c) responsibly cares for wildlife, other hunters, and wild places where these animals live
 - d) all of the above

Mark each of the following twelve statements as either true (T) or false (F)

9. The only measure of a successful hunt is to have killed something.
10. Ethics and laws are the same things.
11. Hunting is a right rather than a privilege.
12. It is important to learn about and respect the animals you hunt.
13. If you do not like deer meat, it is okay to leave most of the meat for coyotes and birds to eat.
14. Shooting from vehicles is considered "fair chase".
15. An important part of being an ethical hunter is to practice shooting.
16. All hunters are ethical.
17. A hunter's respect for animals is not important after the animal has been killed.
18. A big game animal must qualify for a record book to be considered a trophy.
19. Non-hunters don't have anything to say about the future of hunting.
20. It is important to recognize that landowners are individuals, just like everybody else.

TEST KEY

Answers to Hunters Ethics Test

- 1 c
- 2 b
- 3 a
- 4 d
- 5 c
- 6 b
- 7 c
- 8 d
- 9 F
- 10 F
- 11 F
- 12 T
- 13 F
- 14 F
- 15 T
- 16 F
- 17 F
- 18 F
- 19 F
- 20 T