Suggested Tests for Evaluating Actions
(M. Davis [1997], C. Skooglund, J. Smith, & P. Harper)

Viewers might evaluate character actions by applying the following tests:

Harms Test
Do the benefits outweigh the harms, short term and long term?

Reversibility Test
Would I think this was a good choice if I traded places?

Colleague Test
What would my professional colleagues say?
What does my professional code of ethics say?

Legality Test
Would my choice violate a law or policy of my employer?

Publicity Test
How would my choice look on the front page of tomorrow’s newspaper?

Common Practice Test
What if everyone behaved this way?

Wise Relative Test
What would my wise old aunt or uncle do? and/or Would I want them to know what I’m doing?

The Hiding Test
Do I want people to know what I’m doing?

The Self-Respect Test
How will I feel about myself after making this choice?