

LEARNING OBJECTIVE: The courage to be a witness.

Listen to this story:

What should Connor say?

Connor was cycling home from school when he saw his elder sister, Kylie, with a group of young people. He knew some of them; they were tough and didn't care what anyone said to them. They were from the local secondary school, where Connor would be going in September. Connor got off his bike and hid behind a parked car where no one could see him. He was fond of Kylie, even though she was always telling him he was stupid. He knew it was only teasing.

As he watched, he wondered why he had stopped. Was it curiosity? Was he spying or was he really concerned about Kylie? He wasn't sure. Kylie was laughing. One of the girls offered her a cigarette which she took. Connor knew his parents would be cross if they found out. Kylie was only fourteen. He could see Kylie shaking her head and beginning to walk away, then another one of the group, a boy, held her arm and started arguing with her. Another girl pushed her, while another got hold of her bag. Kylie grabbed it back and started to run. The group let her go but shouted after her; "You'd better have the money tomorrow!"

Connor didn't know what to do. There were too many in the group for him to tackle. Kylie was walking home now. Connor got home first. His Mother asked him if he had seen Kylie on the way. Before he could answer, Kylie arrived home.

With someone else in your house, **talk about the times you might have been in a situation where you saw something happen which was unusual, strange or even wrong and you knew that you needed to tell someone.** You were unsure for a number of reasons. Maybe you thought people would laugh at you, not believe you, or you might get into trouble.

Tell them:

- **What it was that you witnessed**
- **What you did**
- **What you would do differently now if you could go back**
- **Would you do anything differently? Why? Why not?**