

Case 10: Fashion Dilemma

Harry is a vegan, an advocate for ethical behavior, and a fashion enthusiast. His favorite store is The Closet because it is inexpensive and frequently introduces new merchandise, allowing him to keep up with the latest trends without breaking the bank. A recent trip to the mall, however, presented a problem for Harry. He discovered that the company that owns The Closet was recently accused of animal cruelty and child labor in its overseas factories. Although the company has adamantly denied knowledge of these practices, an investigation confirmed that animals are used in the testing of their cosmetic products and the production of their clothes and accessories involves child labor.

Harry is debating whether to continue shopping at The Closet. He is comforted by the thought that the company didn't know about the animal cruelty and child labor in their factories, but still doesn't want to give his money to a company that benefits from the exploitation of children and animals. This is a huge problem for Harry because it means he won't be able to afford to experiment with new styles, as all the ethical retailers near him are out of his budget.

Furthermore, Harry is unsure whether he should continue using the products he has already purchased from The Closet. He is saddened by the idea that the clothing and grooming products he has bought there are morally tainted, and he doesn't want to promote the store by wearing its logo. He struggles with the thought of giving up so much of his beloved clothing collection that he worked so hard to grow.

Study Questions:

1. Should Harry continue shopping at The Closet or put his passion on hold?
2. Would it really make a difference if Harry stopped shopping at The Closet? Do the actions of one person in a case like this matter?
3. Should Harry get rid of the clothing from The Closet that he has already purchased?