



The Noble Architect Foundation

121 B Pleasant Street SW
Vienna, Virginia 22180
P: 703.242.4401
F: 703.242.4403
Bahram@thenoblearchitect.com

Conversations with My Daughter Stereotyping...

Washington, D.C., Fall of 2007

T: Dad, what is a judgment?

Dad: A judgment? A judgment is a decision. A judgment is an opinion. It is, also, a judges saying on a legal matter. Where did you hear it?

T: You!

Dad: Me?

T: You tell me, sometimes, to use my judgment.

Dad: Do I? I guess I do. That's a different judgment. It's about how you should make certain decisions based on what you have learned from your life experiences.

T: Oh!

Dad: Was I clear?

T: Not at all, daddy!

Dad: Let me try to explain what judgment is.

T: Okay.

Dad: When I say use your judgment, I mean you should use your knowledge and common sense about a particular thing.

T: Like what?

Dad: I don't remember; when did I say use your judgment?

T: You say it often.

Dad: I do not. Not that often! Can you remind me what we were talking about when I said use your judgment?

T: When I wanted to go in the pool at Billy's birthday.

Dad: Hold on a second, honey. Is that an empty parking space?

T: It is too small for our car.

Dad: Not really; I will tell you if I can park in that space or not. This is GOOD my lady. This is VERY GOOD.

T: Why are you so happy, dad? You're funny. Keep saying GOOD, VERY GOOD!

Dad: Well, for one I don't have to park in the cramped spaces of the garage in the theatre. And, secondly, I don't have to pay \$16.00 to park my car.

T: Oh.

Dad: However, let's see what these signs say. You know, D.C. is very strict on street parking rules.

T: Why daddy? Why D.C. is strict?

Dad: Parking is a big industry here. It's becoming like New York City.

T: Manhattan?

Dad: Yes. Not as expensive, yet! It's almost there, though.

T: Dad, D.C. is very quiet and very clean. Why it's not like New York?

Dad: Some parts of DC are not clean. It's smaller and less chaotic. It's more organized with a lot more open spaces. Let's park our car first. It looks like we found ourselves a nice parking space.

T: Look dad sign says Monday to Friday.

Dad: But, the meter says Saturdays too; and it lets us park here for 2 hours. That cannot be too bad. Although, this show is less than an hour, I think it's only an hour. I think we're Okay.

T: Then, Park daddy! Park – already.

Dad: Okay! I will. Let us run a last check. We can ask that man with a blue uniform. He looks like a parking Police; does he not.

T: What does a parking police look like dad?

Dad: I really meant his uniform looks like a parking ticket officer's uniform. Excuse me sir, are you



The Noble Architect Foundation

121 B Pleasant Street SW
Vienna, Virginia 22180
P: 703.242.4401
F: 703.242.4403
Bahram@thenoblearchitect.com

by any chance with the District parking Authority?

Man in blue uniform: No, I'm not!

Dad: Then I won't ask you my second question.

The man smiles and walks away.

T: Dad, did you stereo type him?

Dad: I think I did.

T: Did you judge him?

Dad: It was an honest mistake. I did not use my sound judgment.

T: Judgment! Right! I get it!

Dad: Actually, it was lack of judgment. I relied on my limited knowledge to express an opinion.

T: Did you hurt his feelings?

Dad: He'll be alright; I think he feels sorry for me!

T: Why does he dad?

Dad: Well, he thinks to himself, this man judges people by the way of their appearances. He may think I do not possess a sound way of thinking.

T: Is he right daddy?

Dad: What do you think?

T: I think you were funny when you said you won't ask your next question.

Dad: I think I was embarrassed so I tried to change the subject. Let's go ask that parking attendant. I'm pretty sure he is a parking attendant!

T: Why don't we just park in the garage like we always do? It's just money! Only a little bit of money.

Dad: Is it, now? It's Just money? I think doing a little bit of research is worth some money – no matter how small it is. Don't you agree?

T: I guess.
