

# To bike or not to bike: an ethical issue



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

The author worries about his image when biking in Uganda. He is a modern well-equipped and wealthy muggy riding a luxurious mountain bike for pleasure and fitness, while around him poor people of Uganda are busy working for life and using their bikes for ferrying life's staples. Although struggling with that contrast, he continues his practice of "luxurious" biking, and tries to present himself as friendly and respectful to surrounding Uganda.

Despite the struggle of the author, his secretive writing shows that he gets used to looking down at the local people. That is the impression readers get increasingly with reading, and it is especially clear with the last phrase of "[creating] a culture of I-you instead I-it". The stakeholders include the author and the local Uganda. It would be better if the former does not pay too much attention on the impact of his appearance, but instead loves the latter as peers, and then keeping his biking practice with a cheaper bikes, cheaper equipments, and using spare money to help the community. Explain

Benefits and losses: The author benefits because he still can maintain his biking practice, in full, with a shiny new mountain bike, and with fully muumuu's appearance as he wishes. The country of Uganda might benefit because it can potentially keep the author - definitely as a good consumer and perhaps also as a good worker (supposing he is doing some useful job for the country), in the country for longer. The local Uganda lose because they have to accept in their community a muggy who intrinsically does not recognize the humane quality between him and them, and also behaves offensively with his biking.

Kind of ethical problem: Character. The author thinks that he should stop biking, but continues doing that nonetheless since he has a pity for himself. When trying to make himself less offensive and more friendly, he perhaps does not recognize that in deep he thinks that local people are lower than him, envy him, and can accept his friendly acts as the signs of good personae. Ethical approach applied: Could be viewed as virtue ethics, as the author focuses on the Image of himself, on what people might think of him because of his biking. Descriptive or Normative: Descriptive.

The author describes the situation and his action, but does not attempt to make judgments on why he think such biking is inappropriate, and what other alternatives and their effects are. Justify With his final choice, the author clearly hopes to improve his image in the eyes of Uganda, namely that he is not just a normal muggy, but a good one who is friendly with everybody. But the last sentence of his description betrays him. It shows that in deep he maintains an I-it relationship with the local peoples, and just tries to aka that relationship looks like an I-you one.

Should he really want to build an I-you relationship, there are some alternative ways of solving his problem. But at first, he should realize that there is in fact no problem at all with his biking in the eyes of Uganda. As humanity, Uganda understand the differences between individuals, understand the value of biking for him. Now, suppose that he still wants to gain the love of the people (perhaps an I-thou relationship? L then stopping biking is not the level closer to surrounding people, as said earlier.