

Cephas

Business



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Rites of Passage” - How you would deal with Cephas and why? The story of Cephas in the “ Rites of Passage” raises many different controversies and illustrates some of the root problems of the society. Activity of Cephas reveals some important factors of the human nature and imperfection of the social system. The workers of the welfare centre who were mentioned in the story all seemed to have no interest in their job and no desire to do their job. Cephas has shattered peace and quiet of this place and obviously has caused many problems and headache to all workers. The fact that Cephas has appeared in the Boone County Department of Public Welfare was very burdensome to its workers. After the man has shown his truck full of food for donation, workers became even more perplexed. The man has decided to help in the way he could, but lack of relevant controls and human factor have caused huge problems.

If I were the worker of this centre I would deal with Cephas differently. Probably, I would try to explain to him that his donation was not a good idea because of the gaps in the system and bureaucracy heavily integrated into this system. I would explain to him that the welfare system doesn't work as it is expected to work and nobody cares about those who are in need. While this behavior would not be appropriate, and the risk of my dismissal would be high, it could serve as an effective trigger for change of the social welfare system. I would do this in order to make the system work how it should be. If there are people who are needy, and there are people who are willing to help and have some capabilities to help, why should the bureaucratic machine and laziness of people prevent this? Nobody knows how many people such as Cephas were willing to help to low-income families, and nobody cares really. The story shows that even though there are welfare programs, they

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do not work how they should.

I would recommend to Cephas to declare somehow officially the contribution he has made and ask for some public report about how and to whom the products were distributed. Thus, the head of the department of the welfare centre and other employees would not take part of the products to their homes and would be responsible to plan thoroughly how to distribute the products equally among low-income families and disabled people. This would be a very problematic thing to do; however, it would serve as the first step towards changing the social welfare system. The more people will bring help and donation, the greater control over it will be required. It will be impossible to hide or take to home the donation. However, it is important to understand that it might take years or even decades to make the system work as it should work. The case of Cephas should raise the publicity, and thus attract attention of governors and other officials.