

## A Right Time to Lie

Lying has always played a significant role in society. Although is it considered immoral to lie to someone, it may actually serve a good purpose once in awhile. People lie to avoid potential problems that they do not want to happen. Furthermore, sometimes people lie to make people feel better. Usually, people do not consider how beneficial lies can be when they first think about deception. It is immediately considered bad or the wrong thing to do. On the contrary, sometimes telling a lie or deceiving someone serves a good purpose.

Studies have shown that lying can be good for you psychologically (Boser). Many use lying to make other people feel better about themselves. In "The Moustache" by Robert Cormier, for example, the main character Mike visits his grandmother who is upset. She accused her deceased husband (who has the same name as Mike) of cheating, and she never got the chance to ask for his forgiveness. Since she mistakes her grandson Mike of being her husband, she asks him for forgiveness for her accusations. Mike wants her to die a happy life, so he says "I forgive you." By lying, he helped his grandmother feel at ease and happy again.

Lying has also been used to promote child-like-innocence or creative imagination. Parents have used "Santa Claus" or "The Tooth Fairy" to help their children see the wonder in the world and promote imagination (Today). Even lying about grades can be healthy. A study was done with students who exaggerated their total GPA and students who told the truth about their GPA. The students who exaggerated their GPA actually later showed improvements in their grades in contrast to the students who were honest about their grades (Boser).

However, when people think about lying, they usually think of the deception that comes with it. Some say lying is considered immoral, but lying has been proven to be good for you psychologically (Boser). For example, in the short story "The Necklace" by Guy de Maupassant, Mademoiselle Loisel lied to Mademoiselle Forester about losing her necklace and bought her a

new one so she would not know the difference. She then spent ten years paying for it. However, this hard work changed her character for the better. She went from being a rude, self-centered woman to someone who valued hard work. Therefore, although she lied and had to do hard work, the situation changed her character and made her a better person as a result of her act of restitution.

In conclusion, sometimes lying or deceiving someone can actually serve a good purpose. It is proven to be good for you psychologically and can protect people from harmful situations. Sometimes, lying is also used to promote child creativity and imagination, and to make people feel better. Although lying is generally considered immoral and the wrong thing to do in certain situations, there are benefits to lying which outweigh the negative consequences associated with deception. In this way, there can be a right time to lie.

### Works Cited

Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK."

*US News Health*. US News and World Report, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

Cormier, Robert. *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

De Maupassant, Guy. *The Necklace*. N.p., 1884. Print.

*Forbes*. N.p., 24 Oct. 2005. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<[http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology\\_cx\\_lr\\_comm05\\_1024lie.html](http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology_cx_lr_comm05_1024lie.html)>.

*Today*. NBC News, 3 Oct. 2007. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/21110828/ns/today-relationships/t/truth-be-told-when-its-ok-tell-white-lie/>>.

# Lies aren't okay

It's never ok too lie no matter the reason. It will probably come back to bite you in the butt (Charles [page #1]). It turns people against you.

Many people believe its bad to lie. Lies could even cost you money like in the moustache he had a moustache and he looked old so he had to pay more for a movie (Cormier [page1]). It hurts people's feelings like in the moustache the kid acts like his Grammys husband so she try to resolve something but he got her all worked up instead of making her peaceful (Cormier [page3]).

Lying hurts the world by three years old kids can tell lies and nobody changes it (Health.usnews.com). Facts show that people lie three times every ten minutes (health.usnews.com). People get buried in lies all there life and cant find ways to get out of it (health.usnews.com).

People can get mentally Ill by telling lies they start believing the lies are true. They live in lies and find the easiest way to get out of something is

to lie. People just start to believe people because its easier to instead of argue.

People love to lie I don't know why. They lie to make themselves happy and others. They believe its easier and people would just give up if they didn't lie.

Lying has its advantages and disadvantages it helps people and can hurt people. People need to choose the right time to lie. People need to remember the right times too lie.

## Works Cited

Jackson, Shirley. "Charles." *Charles*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Maupassant, Guy de. "The Necklace." *The Necklace*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

*US NEWS HEALTH*. N.p., n.d. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and>>.

## The Truth About Lies

Lying and deception has been around for a long time, and now people contemplate whether it is never a good idea to lie, or if sometimes telling a lie or deceiving someone serves a good purpose. People should focus on being honest, rather than lying freely, without caring about the outcome of their words. Some lies may protect, or compliment people, but that does not mean someone should live a deceptive life and go down a road they wish not to go.

Lying can take a turn for the worst. It may also take a situation to a much grander scale than one would have ever thought it could be. This kind of instance happens in the short story, "The Necklace", by Guy de Maupassant. In the story, the main character, Mathilde, deceives her friend about a necklace she borrowed. Mathilde borrows what she thinks is an expensive necklace and then loses it. She then buys a new one worth thousands and has to work ten years of hard labor to pay it off. Later, she talks to her old friend and her friend tells her it was fake; only worth maybe a few hundred. By deceiving her friend, Mathilde had ruined ten years of her life.

Lying could also mean much more than you think. "People often poorly estimate the consequences of their actions or specifically undervalue or ignore the harmful consequences to society (e.g., mistrust) that their lies cause" (Mazur). Tim C. Mazur, the author of the article, "Lying," goes on to state, "As trust declines, cynicism spreads, and our overall quality of life drops. In addition, suggesting that people may lie in pursuit of the greater good can lead to a "slippery slope," where the line between cleverly calculated moral justifications and empty excuses for selfish behavior is exceedingly thin" (Mazur). Mazur makes agreeable points on Kant, utilitarian, and virtue ethics.

---

When one needs to make a decision on what they think is the right path to take, they should look deeper into the possible outcomes of what their actions may lead to.

Lying is not a necessity. It is best to find a way not to lie just because you feel as if you can. There are many other options that operate much better than deceiving. In an article by Ulrich Boser, he quotes Robert Feldman, saying, "That's the great paradox here. I do believe the more lies, the more degradation. But you can't stop lies entirely. Society will grind to a halt." Now I believe that we may never disable people from lying or hold them back from free-will, and we shouldn't, as people should make their own decisions, but we should not necessarily promote lying freely and having no thought of consequences. Many people in society revolve their lives around deceiving others to benefit their self motives, but we can discourage much of the behavior that leads others to taking up the same ways. Many may argue that a lie can benefit someone which it may, but in many situations it is the wrong choice. In the short story, "The Moustache," Robert Cormier shows the main character imposing as his grandfather and forgiving his grandmother for something she has remorse for. For this situation he should not have spoken for someone else as he doesn't know what his grandfather response would have been. The truth is not always what you want to hear, but it is what matters.

After reflecting on the dispute over lying and deceiving, the people of the world must consider how they want their lives to be and how they wish to live them. Some people receive several subjects too strongly, while other matters like lying too lightly. Deceiving affects the way one lives their life and who they are, so it is important to consider the right action to take. Is the truth of this theme something that we already know, or something entirely different? Afterall, we all want to know what is true and



what is not. It may come down to the individual interpreting the truth about lies.

### Works Cited

Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK."

*U.S News Health*. U.S News & World Report, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

Cormier, Robert. "The Moustache." *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

De Maupassant, Guy. "The Necklace." *The Necklace*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Mazur, Tim C. "Lying." *Santa Clara University*. Markkula Center For Applied Ethics, n.d. Web.

4 Dec. 2012. <<http://www.scu.edu/ethics/publications/iie/v6n1/lying.html>>.

## Why Lying Is Sometimes Ok

Everyone has lied at least once in his or her life. But lying is not always a bad thing. Lying can actually help you succeed, if it is used right. Telling a lie or deceiving someone can serve a good purpose.

First of all lying about certain things are beneficial to you. For Example in an article called "We Are All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies and Why White Lies Can Be Ok" by Ulrich Boser said, "a study released that college students who exaggerated their GPA showed improvement in their grades." Also in that article Ulrich Boser said, "Exaggerators tend to be more confident and have higher goals." And in an article named "Truth Be Told: When It Is Ok To Tell A White Lie" the author of the article, Robi Ludwig, mentions that "Telling a little white lie may be healthy when it comes to managing our interpersonal relationships."

Secondly, Lying is acceptable sometimes because it has the ability to boost your social life and interactions. Robert Feldman, a Psychologist at The University Of Massachusetts says, "We use lies to grease the wheels of social discourse. It is socially useful to tell lies." Also, Lying can boost your social life and interactions because in an article titled "We Are All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies and Why White Lies Can Be Ok" the author, Ulrich Boser, mentioned "People who lie frequently tend to be viewed as friendlier."

Lastly, lying is sometimes approved because it has the power to protect your love ones close to you. In an article called "Truth Be Told: When It Is Ok To Tell A White Lie" by Doctor Robi Ludwig says, "A little white lie like mentioning the tooth fairy or Santa Claus is acceptable when it protects a child's innocence or creative imagination." Also, in the story Robert Comier wrote called "The Moustache" the main character, Mike, told his mother he was thinking about shaving off his moustache, when he really wasn't, to keep his mother from worrying about him. And later in the story Mike goes to visit his grandmother at a nursing an he lets her think he is really her husband, who left her long ago because she accused him for cheating on her and Mike, pretending he was her deceased husband, told her he forgave her to let her die in peace.

Someone against lying might say lying is always a bad thing to do. They would say that because lying hurts people. But not always. In the article, "Truth Be Told: When It Is Ok To Tell A White Lie" the author, Doctor Robi Ludwig, says, "Lying is primarily harmless in most cases." For instance, when he says in the same article "Mild falses make it easier for people to get along." Another point a person against lying would make is that lying is very bad for you. But "Researchers have recently discovered that some fibbing might be good for you" Ulrich Boser says in his article titled "We Are All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies and Why White Lies Can Be Ok."

That is why lying is sometimes ok. It can be beneficial to you, lying can boost

your social life and interactions, lying has the power to protect your loved ones close to you, help you make new friends, and is harmless in most cases. Those are my reasons why lying can be sometimes ok.

## Works Cited

Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK."

*health.usnews.com*. US News, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

Cormier, Robert. *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Ludwig, Robi. "Truth be told: When it's OK to tell a white lie." *MSNBC.com*. MSN, n.d. Web. 4

Dec. 2012. <<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/21110828/ns/today-relationships/t/truth-be-told-when-its-ok-tell-white-lie/>>.

"Lying." *Ethics guide*. BCC, n.d. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<[http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying\\_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying_1.shtml)>.

## It's Okay To Lie, Sometimes!

From a young age, people are told that lying is never good and one shouldn't ever do it (Boser). But depending on the circumstances, one might feel it is necessary to tell a little white lie. Sometimes it is to save a friendship or protect a child's imagination. Whatever the reason is, sometimes telling a lie or deceiving someone serves a good purpose.

When the whole truth tears someone down, sometimes one might feel like it would be so much easier just to stretch the truth a little. So some people do! "We use lies to grease the wheels of social discourse" (Boser). People don't like to get put down ever. Whether it means not liking someones shirt or not wanting to hangout with them, nobody wants to hear the whole truth. Telling a white lie can be healthy in a relationship (Today). One can save a relationship by telling a small lie, which can be very beneficial. People don't enjoy lying or like to do it, but it can be way easier to lie than to tell the truth.

Lying to one's parents is never good to do. But lying to them so that they will feel at ease and not have to worry about everything, may be the right choice every once in awhile. In "The Moustache" by Robert Cormier, Mike told his mother that everything had went well at the nursing home, even though it was a completely nerve racking experience for him. If Mike would have told his mother what really happened, she would have freaked out and would have worried about his grandmother. Because Mike lied though, his mother did not stress out and calmly went on with her life. In this instance

lying was used in a way to help his mom, which can sometimes be okay.

Sometimes people might say that lying is a sin and one should never do it. Although some people might believe that lying is a sin, others might not be religious. Other people might say that lying to someone will only hurt them in the long run, but according to Today News, telling a small white lie can make people feel better about themselves and they most likely won't care that much if it was a small lie. One might strongly disagree with lying, but it is just an opinion and some might believe lying is necessary.

In conclusion lying can save a friendship, make people feel better about themselves and protect a child's imagination. Lying is acceptable in certain situations and can be necessary. Some might say that you should not, but deceiving someone can serve a good purpose in the long run.



### Works Cited

Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK."

*Health U.S News*. U.S.News & World Report, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

Cormier, Robert. "The Moustache." *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. 1-7. Print.

Ludwig, Dr.Robi. "Truth be told: When it's OK to tell a white lie." *NBC News Today*. MSNBC Interactive, 3 Oct. 2007. Web. 5 Dec. 2012.

<<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/21110828/ns/today-relationships/t/truth-be-told-when-its-ok-tell-white-lie/>>.

## Lying

Sometimes telling a lie or deceiving someone serves a good purpose. "One study found that people tell two to three lies every 10 minutes" (*We're All Lying Liars*), so it is not as bad as some people make it out to be. Some lies can be bad and some lies can be good, it depends on what people say and when they say it. Lying can be helpful in tricky situations. It really is not that bad.

When situations are bad or tricky, telling a lie can be really helpful. In "The Moustache", his grandmother thought Mike, the main character with the moustache, was his grandfather and asked him to forgive her and he did so his grandmother could die in peace (Cormier 6). Some parents tell their kids that Santa Claus is real so their Christmases are more enjoyable. If a person has to tell someone that a person has died, they might lie and cover it up with saying that they are not feeling well and are trying to get better, and then later on, when they feel ready to tell them they say that the person has died. A person could also ask someone if they like what they are wearing and the person can lie and say they do to make them feel better about themselves. Lying can be used to make people feel better about themselves or certain situations.

In some cases, lying can boost self-confidence. "When college students were interviewed and asked about their GPA some lied and then later showed improvement in grades" (*We're All Lying Liars*). That proves that lying can sometimes help with the way people view things and themselves and how they go on with their life. "People who deceive themselves also tend to be happier than people who do not" (*We're All Lying Liars*). Since there is evidence in that proving if someone lies about their grades that they

got better at it, it must be perfectly fine to tell a little lie to boost confidence and improve in things.

Telling a white lie now and then can do no harm. There are people that lie about things they should not so they do not get in trouble; that is a completely different situation. Also, some claim that they can tell when a person is lying, but it is proved that only 50 percent of the time a person can tell whether another is lying or not. "Lies are not a part of human nature. They are a sign of craft" (*Must People Lie? Yes*), that is completely wrong since on average, a person tells two to three lies every ten minutes.

People may disagree and say lying is not good at all. It is used as a cover-up and the evidence showing it can boost confidence and happiness levels prove it is not as bad as people make it seem. As long as it is not a huge lie, like if you stole something, then it is fine.

## Works Cited

- Cormier, Robert. "The Moustache." *The Moustache*. By Cormier. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.
- Must People Lie? Yes, Absolutely. Or Is That a Lie?* The New York Times, 18 Aug. 2001. Web. 16 Nov. 2012.
- We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK*. US News Health, 20 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

## Lies are Okay, Occasionally

People are probably told that lying is bad from day 1, but if people didn't tell white lies, our society would be a disaster. Some people use lying to make people feel better, like in the story "The Moustache". Studies are shown that people are found happier when lying. "The white lies we tell others serve as social glue that sustains and enriches relationships." Telling white lies can serve a good purpose, and are okay to tell on the right occasion.

Lying is okay in certain situations because if we didn't lie we wouldn't be socially okay with people. "People who deceive themselves are usually happier than people that don't." This is because telling white lies, are telling people what they want to hear. In general, it just keeps everyone happy. It is easy to offend someone by being completely honest. If someone were to ask someone else if they liked their shirt, saying yes would be the appropriate answer to avoid any conflict. So in other words, "It's socially useful to tell lies."

In the short story, "The Moustache" the main character, Mike went along with being his grandma's husband because she was in her deathbed and she felt guilty about something she did in the past to her husband, that passed away. Since Mike didn't want his Grandmother to die feeling guilty, he said he forgave her, even though it wasn't his place to forgive. It was okay for Mike to lie in this case because it was for a good cause, and it made someone else happy. Lies like these are considered white lies, and aren't meant to intentionally hurt anyone.

Many think lying is not okay, and that telling the complete truth is the right thing to do at all times. They may think lying can hurt someone's feelings, but by telling the truth, you can also hurt someone's feelings because the truth is not always the best thing to hear in certain situations. A lot of people think that lying makes you a bad person, but told in the Boser Article "We're All Lying Liars", it said, "Studies have shown that people who lie frequently are viewed as friendlier and more amiable than their more truthful counterparts." Telling white lies doesn't make you a liar.

Overall, telling lies in the right situation is okay, otherwise the social world would be a disaster. Stretching the truth, in order to make someone else's day, is considered by many to be compassionate.

### Works Cited

- Beth, Leslie. "Whem Is It Ok To Lie?" *QualityHealth.com*. QualityHealth, 27 July 2011. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <<http://www.qualityhealth.com/relationships-expert-qa/when-it-okay-lie>>.
- Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK." *Health. U.S. News*. U.S News, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.
- Cormier, Robert. "The Moustache." *The Moustache*. By Cormier. N.p.: n.p., n.d. 1-7. Print.

## Lying

Everyone lies, study shows that people lie two to three times every ten minutes. It was horrible to find that out. It is not okay to lie or deceive someone. No matter who it is, people should never lie.

Every one deserves the right to know the truth. “No one likes being lied to. We feel betrayed” (Boser). Lying to others makes them not want to trust people. Lying diminishes trust between human beings (Lying).

Telling the truth is easier than lying. If people lie than, they have to remember what they told them. In the long run it is harder to tell the truth than lie. In “The Necklace” Mathilde lost her friend’s necklace that she thought was real and worth a lot of money. Actually, the necklace was fake and worth nothing. Mathilde lied to her friend and said the necklace was getting repaired while she was trying to buy a new one. The one she bought cost a lot of money. She worked very hard to buy it. Later she realized the one she lost was fake, and she did all that work for nothing. It would have been easier to tell her friend the truth rather than lying to her friend (De Maupassant).

Lying is wrong in every way. There is never a good reason to lie. “Lying is a basic moral wrongdoing” (Lying). Lying is the most common wrong act (Lying). It misuses the God given gift of human communication.

People say that white lies make people feel good. When actually they will feel worse if they find out that some one lied to them. Some people think that lying is easier, but lying is harder because people have to make things up and have to remember what they told them. They say that everyone lies so you are just lying to liars. That is not always the case, not all people are constant liars and they still have feelings.



It is never a good idea to lie or deceive someone. Because, everybody deserves to know the truth, lying is harder in the long run, and there is never a good reason to lie. Telling the truth is always the right thing to do.

## Works Cited

De Maupassant, Guy. "The Necklace." *The Necklace*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

"Lying." *BBC Ethics Guide*. The BBC, n.d. Web. 5 Dec. 2012.

<[http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying\\_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying_1.shtml)>.

*US News Health*. N.p., n.d. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

## Lying Is Never Okay

"You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor."

(BibleGateway.com) Exodus 20: 16. In the Bible, never does it say that it is okay to lie or deceive someone. It is never a good idea nor is it ever okay to lie or deceive someone. When you tell one lie it just leads to another, and another, and another. If we keep telling lies, no one will be able to trust one another.

No one likes being lied to. People feel betrayed. "Lies add up," says Felman. "The more you know that someone is not telling you the truth, the less trustworthy they are" (US News Health). The philosopher Immanuel Kant said that lying was always morally wrong. He argued that all persons are born with an "intrinsic worth" that he called human dignity. "To be human," said Kant, "is to have the rational power of free choice: to be ethical," he continued, "is to respect that power in oneself and others." Lying is morally wrong because people cannot accurately measure a lie's benefits and harms. This is shown in two different ways. First, lying corrupts the most important quality of humans being human: the ability to make free, rational choices. Each lie someone tells contradicts the part of him/her that gives him/her moral worth. Second, someone's lies rob others of their freedoms too. When a lie leads other people to decide on a different course than they would have if they had known the truth, it has harmed their dignity and autonomy (Mazur).

In the short story "The Necklace", a character named Mathilde lost a diamond necklace that her friend had lent to her. She lied to her friend and said

she broke the clasp but was getting it repaired. Mithelde found another necklace almost identical to the one she lost and bought it for thirty-six thousand francs. She returned that necklace to her friend and then had to work hard for ten years to repay the debt she was in. She finally told the truth to her friend and found out that the necklace that she lost were all fake diamonds. The necklace that she bought for a lot of money was real diamonds. Mithelde's friend told her that her necklace was only worth about five hundred francs. If Mithelde hadn't lied to her friend about losing the money, she would not of had to work so hard for all those years or had to pay a bunch of money for the new one (Maupassant [page 3-7]).

Kant believed that in order to value one self and others as an ends instead of a means, would mean to have perfect duties (i.e., no exceptions). One would avoid damaging, interfering with, or misusing the ability to make free decisions. In other words - no lying (Mazur). What Kant is trying to say is people have to make free decisions and to do that people cannot lie. People often poorly estimate the consequences of their actions or specifically undervalue or ignore the harmful consequences to society that their lies cause. As trust declines, cynicism spreads, and our overall quality of life drops (Mazur). Humans need to be able to trust each other. If people cannot trust one another, life will become extremely difficult.

Though the nature of virtue ethics makes it difficult to assess the morality of individual acts. Those who advocate this theory generally consider lying wrong because it opposes the virtue of honesty. There is some debate whether a lie told in pursuit of another virtue (compassion) is right or wrong. A lie,

therefore, is not always immoral; in fact, when lying is necessary to maximize benefit or minimize harm, it may be considered immoral not to lie. The challenge in applying utilitarian ethics to everyday decision-making, however, is significant: one must correctly estimate the overall consequences of one's actions before making a decision. In addition, suggesting that people may lie in pursuit of the greater good can lead to a "slippery slope," where the line between cleverly calculated moral justifications and empty excuses for selfish behavior is exceedingly thin (Mazur).

Either way, it seems that the solution to our dissatisfaction begins with acknowledging the value of ethical reasoning and ends with a commitment to follow through with what we determine is the right thing to do (Mazur). People interpret lying in different ways all over the world. People want to be able to trust others but they cannot do this if there are so many lies in between them and others. One should never try to lie or deceit someone.

## Works Cited

*BibleGateway.com*. N.p., n.d. Web. 6 Dec. 2012.

<<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus+20&version=NIV>>.

Maupassant, Guy De. "The Necklace." *The Necklace*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Mazur, Tim C. "Lying." *Santa Clara University*. The Markkula Center for Applied Ethics, n.d.

Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <<http://www.scu.edu/ethics/publications/iie/v6n1/lying.html>>.

*US News Health*. Ulrich Boser, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<[http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-](http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok)

[behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok](http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok)>.

## Lies, lies and more lies

Lying is acceptable, sometimes, but is also a tricky subject to talk about, because for religious people it is a sin but for others it is a daily ritual. If honesty is a virtue then lying is a bad thing. Lying is written as the ninth Biblical commandment, and says "Thou shalt not bear false witness". Which means you should not lie, so for any person who is religious it is a sin and they probably do not lie. Lying is fine in some situations but in others it might cause harm to you and others.

We lie all the time. In 2002, Robert Feldman, a psychology professor at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, conducted a study in which he secretly videotaped student's conversations with strangers. After the fact, he had the students examine the videotapes and identify the untruths. On average, they claim to have told three lies per ten minutes of conversation. In fact, "We lie so much that the dishonesty becomes automatic" He says. Most of the time, we are not even aware of the lies we tell.

Why are we dishonest so often? Isn't honesty the best policy? In fact, no. Nobody wants to hear that they look heavier or less attractive. In truth, we consider those who are too honest to be blunt, antisocial and even pathological. A recent study found that adolescents who are most popular with their peers were the ones that were the best at being deceptive. It is alright to lie when the whole truth would tear someone down and make them feel horrible about themselves rather than build them up, like saying "I like your new, extremely short haircut" when in reality it's just awful. Brutal honesty can be used as a toxic weapon, and from when we were small, we were always

told that lying is bad and that we should always be honest no matter what happens. However, right now, lying seems to be a way of life. People lie everyday for unimportant things like how someone looks to more serious things like saving a person's life. Lying is certainly not something good but there are some situations when lying is acceptable and it's a better decision.

However sometimes lies obviously hurt the person who is lied to (most of the time), but they can also hurt the liar, and society in general. Lying is sometimes bad because it makes it difficult for the person being lied to to make a free and informed decision about the matter concerned. Lies lead people to base their decisions on false information. The major difference between a white lie and a hard lie is that a hard lie is said to protect oneself, whereas a little white lie is said to protect someone else. Which means it can be ok to lie as long as it is in protection of you or another person, and that is ok because we tend to shelter and defend others..

Lying is tricky, as stated before, but it is also simple. When you lie if it is going to hurt someone or you, then it is wrong. However if it is ok it is not going to hurt them or it might even help them. Most people would agree with that statement too but there are some that might feel that lying is still a sin and would never lie. Although to me it is acceptable, sometimes.



### Works Cited

*BBC*. BBC, n.d. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <[http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying\\_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying_1.shtml)>.

Cormier, Robert. "The Moustache." *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

*Pruftrock Press*. Pruftrock Press Inc., n.d. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<[http://www.pruftrock.com/Assets/ClientPages/philosophy\\_for\\_teen.aspx](http://www.pruftrock.com/Assets/ClientPages/philosophy_for_teen.aspx)>.

*U.S News Health*. US news and world report, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>.

# Is Lying Really Wrong?

Many people have told you your entire life not to lie because its wrong. Is it really? While it is frowned upon, what makes it so bad. Have you ever gone a day without telling one lie? Throughout human history deceit has been used in everyday life. We are automatically wired to lie. Peoples' lives have been saved because of a good lie now and then. Lying can be good and even useful in todays society.

In a study conducted by Robert Feldman it was discovered that people are lying, on average, 2 to 3 times every 10 minutes of conversation(forbes.com). In conjunction with the study Mr. Feldman had said "it's socially useful to lie", meaning that lying is a social asset. Apart from that it is also courteous to lie to people at times, like when a friend has become husky and asks you if they are fat it is only polite to lie and say they are not. In some cases a good lie has set people free of guilt so that they will at peace. In Robert Cormier's "The Mustache" he conveyed how lying has psychological effects on people. When Mike was talking to his Grandmother about his grandfather he continuously lied to keep his grandmother from entering a state of depression, and let her reconsole, falsely, with her late husband about a wrong she committed.

Lying is also useful in improving yourself. In an article by Ulrich Boser for U.S.news he wrote about a study taken last year that showed lying can have more positive psychological effects. in the article he stated "Researchers found that college students who exaggerated their GPA in interviews later showed improvement in their grades. their fiction in other words became self fulfilling. 'Exaggerators tend to be

more confident and have higher goals for achievement', explains Richard Gramzow, a psychologist at the University of Southampton in England and one of the studies coauthors".

Those who deceive themselves tend to be happier than those who don't(forbes.com). These individuals are more often than not deemed friendlier than their more truthful counterparts. Scientific evidence has shown that people more honest with themselves are more likely to develop depression, when people recover they are usually less honest. On the opposite side of the spectrum, the more truthful people are deemed social outcasts for their more blunt and unattractive way of voicing their thoughts. Still not all individuals do not see the point of these words.

Some individuals will still argue that it is a wrong act to lie, or a sin (BBC.com). They view lying as a black and white spectrum instead of its shades of grey. Some think to lie is to lock a piece of you away(unmaskd.com). Sure sometimes you should not lie but that does not mean it is wrong. While lying can be viewed as a sin but some people are not that religious. To some degree lying may be unruly but it is part of our nature so we can make the most of it.

Lying may have caught a lot of flak through time but it is still at worst a necessary evil. Lying is at best the means of changing the world. Since it was imbedded into most people in childhood, they may have mixed feelings about it, but they still do lie for good reason. In the end it is still a done deed so no point in turning it into an indecent act.

## Works Cited

Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK."

*health.usnews.com*. US News, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

Cormier, Robert. *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Ludwig, Robi. "Truth be told: When it's OK to tell a white lie." *MSNBC.com*. MSN, n.d. Web. 4

Dec. 2012. <<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/21110828/ns/today-relationships/t/truth-be-told-when-its-ok-tell-white-lie/>>.

"Lying." *Ethics guide*. BCC, n.d. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<[http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying\\_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying_1.shtml)>.

## Everyone Lies

The average person lies about once a day. So it must be alright to lie.

Well, most people would say this only applies in certain situations. For example, if someone held a gun to your head and asked, "What is your favorite color? if it's blue, I will shoot you." What if your favorite color actually was blue, you would lie right? This is just one of the many examples of when lying is ok. This passage will hopefully help you consider why lying is ok sometimes.

In some situations lying has saved people's lives. For example, a family in Germany hid Anne Frank from soldiers during the Holocaust. When asked if they had seen her they said "No." Would you have done the same? This is only one of the many times lying has saved people in our history. You might be thinking that nothing like this will ever happen to you, and you may be right. But I am sure there are many cases in which lying can work to your advantage.

Santa, Easter Bunny, Tooth Fairy, these are just some of the average lies parents tell without even thinking about it. You must have lied about these things to your kids, or maybe a little brother or sister. If people never lied, none of these characters would exist. In the movie, The Invention Of Lying, no one can lie until a man wonders what will happen if he tried it. At work he could just tell his boss that if he didn't give him a raise the world would end, and then his boss would

give him the raise. My point is that if people lied 99% of the time, when someone did lie they would not know.

Even though everyone lies and it's only ok to at certain times, in other situations its could be the worst thing to do. Many robbers find ways to take your money online, by selling something that they do not really have or saying they can do something for you that they really can not. You might think this is a good idea. Until you get caught and end up in jail. You have to learn when it is a reasonable time to lie, and when it would just be better to tell the truth.

In We're All Lying Liers, former FBI agent Joe Narravo states "No one likes being lied to". This statement is true, but if a pet in your family died, lying might be a better decision, to keep your children happy. The author says "People can identify lies 50% of the time." Which is just another reason why not to tell big lies. If they can identify that you are lying they will not trust you when you are telling the truth.

#### Works Cited

Comeir, Robert. *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

*www.health.us.com*. N.p., 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/we-re-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

## **The Benefits of White Lies**

The American Heritage Dictionary defines a white lie as “a diplomatic or well intentioned untruth”. White lies are helpful to maintain relationships when used carefully. White lies can make another person feel good, prevent arguments, save time, or reduce the need for long explanations. Any type of lying that hurts others or lets someone avoid punishment or taking responsibility for their actions is wrong. The benefits of white lies are clear and there are many examples of how they are helpful.

White lies are acceptable in situations when it helps others feel better and put them at ease. Many examples have shown up in “The Moustache” by Robert Cormier. First Mike, the lead character, told his mom that he would shave his moustache to calm her even though he did not intend to (“Cormier”). Then when he comes back home from visiting his grandmother his mom asks him how it went he told her it was fine to keep her from worrying when it really had not been (“Cormier”). Another example from “The Moustache” occurs when Mike visits his grandmother. Because of her health, she believes that Mike is her husband and keeps asking him to forgive her for accusing him of cheating on her. Mike chose to pretend to be her husband and forgive her. His decision to tell a white lie and pretend to be her husband allowed his grandmother to be at peace with herself and live the rest of her life happily (“Cormier”).

Agreeing with someone who you know to be wrong is another example of a white lie. This is most often done to avoid an argument. Many times people will be discussing the past and one person remembers doing or saying something



that they did not actually do or say. Rather than telling the person they are wrong and making them mad or causing an argument over who is right, many people will not correct the other person. People often let things go to move things along as well. If a person is telling a story, getting to the end of the story may be more important than having accurate details.

Parents tell their children small mistruths or white lies, the most common examples are holiday figures such as Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny. The reasons children are told about these figures is for tradition and for their enjoyment. In addition, many families do not follow the Christian religion that these holidays celebrate, so it allows their children to participate in these holidays. It is far easier for some people to tell their children about Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny than about the birth and resurrection of Jesus Christ. People do not just tell white lies about holiday figures, but also tell them when someone asks them how they look or when asked if a certain food tastes good when it may really tastes like it came out of a trashcan. White lies are told to protect the wellbeing of others and make them feel good about who they are.

Some people may believe all forms of lying are unfit for society, believing that even the smallest of fibs often lead to bigger lies that will eventually catch up with them, but small mistruths are only told to make or keep positive relationships. If a person is building bigger lies out of a small fib to obtain personal gain or to hurt someone, then it is about personal gain or selfishness, not about maintaining relationships. It is wrong to practice deceit because the friends of those who practice deceit will not have faith in them any more

("Plante"). True friends and family know that a small misleading word or phrase is done out of love and compassion, not out of spite. Lying can make people more stressed, especially when trying to remember which lie they told to which person. If people stick to white lies, they do not have to remember who they lied to and what lie they told ("Plante"). Although some people believe, one should not tell any type of lie because it always has a consequence, sometimes the consequence of telling a white lie is better for the happiness and self-esteem of others than telling the truth.

Lies have and always will be part our lives. Some lies will benefit us by helping to improve our confidence or self-esteem; other lies may hurt us emotionally or make it more difficult for us to get through life. When we use white lies, we can protect people's feelings and help others enjoy the things around us. People lie every day. Our responsibility is to lie only when we have the best interests of the other person in mind.

## Works Cited

Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars Why People Tell Lies, And Why White Lies Can Be Ok - US News And World Report." *U.S. NEWS HEALTH*. U.S. News & World Report, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

Cormier, Robert. "The Moustache." *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Plante, Thomas G. "Is Lying for the Greater Good Ethical?" *Psychology Today*. N.p., 6 Dec. 2011. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <<http://www.psychologytoday.com>>.

# Never Try to Lie

A half truth is a whole lie. (Proverb) Lying has become a very regular thing in life. "Children may learn to lie in the same way they learn to speak." The way their parents and people around them tell lies, is rubbing off on the generations under us. (Boser) No one is going to be able to trust each other if lying does not stop. It is never a good idea to lie or deceive someone.

Feeling betrayed and lied to does not feel good, but still lies exist. People think that the easiest thing to say to someone is a little white lie so they do not hurt their feelings. "People don't know the difference between being gently honest as opposed to being so straightforward that you leave a verbal wound." (Burbach) If you are gentle and careful about what you say, then you can tell the truth and not hurt anyone. When a friend asks about how their dress looks and it is ugly, you do not have to be straightforward and tell them that. Just saying that it is not a great looking dress, will get across that you do not like it in a nicer way.

Being truthful is an amazing quality to have, because not many people are totally honest anymore. Most of the time when someone asks how they look, they want a truthful opinion. They will appreciate the truth even when it is not what they want to hear. People rather have their friends tell them that they have food in their teeth, than some random person. People who have a good relationship with friends will be more likely to tell the truth because they feel more comfortable.

"The Necklace" is a great example about why not to lie. The story is about a woman named Mathilde who got an invitation to a party. She was a poor lady though, and did not have a dress or jewelry to wear. Mathilde borrows money from her husband and a necklace from her friend, Jeanne. When the party was over she realized the necklace was gone. Mathilde's husband searched all over for the necklace but could not find it. He told Mathilde, in

order to buy some time, write a letter to Jeanne and tell her that the necklaces clasp broke and it is in the shop getting fixed. Mathilde did just that and later she realized that, that was a mistake. Since they could not find the necklace, they decided to buy Jeanne a new one. They gave Jeanne the necklace, and Mathilde and her husband worked for ten years to pay off the real diamond necklace they bought that costed them 36,000 francs. Later Mathilde ran into Jeanne and decided to tell her about the incident of losing her necklace. Jeanne's reply was, "Oh, my poor Mathilde. But mine were false. At most they were worth five hundred francs!" (Maupassant) Since Mathilde lied she never got to ask how much the necklace actually cost and what type of necklace it was. If Mathilde would have told the truth, she would have paid the right price for the necklace. It also said that her and her husband had to work hard for ten years. They would not have had to work for ten long years if they would have told the truth in the first place. Lying just creates more trouble in the end.

If two people who disagree with each others viewpoint are talking, this is how it would go. They would probably ask why is lying not ok? The other person would ask back with the question why do you think lying is ok? Then the first person would probably give you an answer like, "Well if someones hair is messed up and you don't want to hurt their feelings, it's ok to lie." Then the second person would say, "The girl or guy can tell the truth while still being nice. People don't understand the difference between being gentle with the truth and being straightforward with the truth." (Burbach) The first person would say that they would never tell their friend that they look bad in something. Then the second person would say, "Yes, no one wants to hurt someones feelings, but that person might want to hear the truth about how they look. Being able to tell the truth to your friend all depends on how comfortable or where you stand with your friend. (Burbach) There is not a good enough reason to lie straight to your friends face." The first person would say, "Lying about big things like an affair is not right, but sometimes little white lies are ok. Protecting someone's feelings come before telling them the

truth.”

The way someone sees lying is going to be different from some people. Not lying is going to come in handy when everyone else lies. Friends want to trust friends, but when they lie about something, the trust is sometimes ruined. A much more disturbing factor is the ending of friendship because of betrayal. Sometimes, someone who you think is a friend to you actually shows you that they are nothing more than a backstabbing, lying jerk. (Wein) Lying only creates more problems. Lying is one of the major problems with this world today. Who can you trust when lying is so acceptable and almost expected in today's world? No one should ever try to lie or deceive someone.

## Works Cited

- Boser, Ulrich. "We are all Lying Liars." *U.S. News Health*. Ulrich Boser, 18 May 2009. Web. 18 May 2009. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.
- Burbach, Cherie. "My Friends Lie to Me." *About.com*. N.p., 25 Sept. 2012. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <[http://friendship.about.com/od/Toxic\\_Friends/tp/My-Friends-Lie-To-Me.htm](http://friendship.about.com/od/Toxic_Friends/tp/My-Friends-Lie-To-Me.htm)>.
- Maupassant, Guy De. "The Necklace." *The Necklace*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.
- Proverb, Yiddish. "Quotations about Honesty." *The Quote Garden!* N.p., 24 Nov. 2012. Web. 6 Dec. 2012. <<http://www.quote garden.com/honesty.html>>.
- Wein, Julie A. "Things that can break up a friendship." *Helium*. RR Donnelley, 30 Apr. 2009. Web. 10 Dec. 2012. <<http://www.helium.com/items/1434129-breakup-friendships>>.

## Lying

People lie all the time. From saying that super short haircut looks great to saying you love you're friends homemade beans when you really can not stand them. Little lies like these aren't always bad. Lies can be bad if they are told by people to protect themselves from getting in trouble, but lies that protect others from getting in trouble, is a whole different story.

"People who deceive themselves also tend to be happier than people who don't and are more confident" (Health.usnews.com). For example "some people who are unhealthy, would lie to themselves about how much food they eat and how often they visit the gym" (Health.usnews.com). Some people lie to themselves about their appearances like their hair cuts and their clothing, but in some people's eyes it is easier to lie to yourself then to buy a whole new wardrobe. People lie because the whole world lies and there is no changing it. "By the age of 3, most children know how to fib, and by 6, most lie a few times a day" (Health.usnews.com). "Experts believe that children learn to lie by observing their parents do it that they become practiced in the art of deception by imitating Mom and Dad" (Health.usnews.com). Because lying starts at a young age it is very hard to break the habit.

People lie because they want to protect the feelings of the people they care about. For example someone may give you a bag that is really ugly and you thank him or her because you want to be polite and you don't want to hurt his or her feelings. This is considered lying but it's easier to pretend you like the bag then to ruin a relationship or offend someone by saying you don't like it. "Studies have shown that people who lie frequently are viewed as friendlier and more amiable than their more truthful



counterparts” (Health.usnews.com). In the story The Moustache, Mike lies to his grandmother so he wouldn’t make her more confused then she already was, from her dementia. He granted her dying wish, which was for her husband to forgive her, and that made her very happy and at peace (Cormier pages1-7). On the other hand some people believe lying is very wrong.

Some people believe lying is wrong and serves no good purpose. Some people would argue that when you continue to lie you would no longer be trusted. But since studies show that you will be more confident and friendlier, that proves lying isn’t always bad.

In conclusion lying can be more of an advantage then telling the truth. Telling the truth can ruin relationships and make people upset. Telling lies can make you feel confident and good about yourself. People tell lies all the time, “one study found that people tell two to three lies every 10 minutes” (Health.usnews.com), if you can’t fight them join them.

## Works Cited

Cormier, Robert. "The Moustache." *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

*Health.usnews.com*. usnews, n.d. Web. 3 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

*TODAY Relationships*. N.p., n.d. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.  
<<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/21110828/ns/today-relationships/t/truth-be-told-when-its-ok-tell-white-lie/>>.

## We All Lie... Sometimes

Lying in some situations can be helpful or useful. Research has shown the average person tells at least one lie every day and many people lie more often than that. Lying is not always bad, sometimes lying can be okay to make people happy or help with a particular problem. Joan Didion says that "we tell ourselves stories in order to live." The lies we tell over and over become natural in order to make life easier and keep our lives happy and positive.

Many children believe in Santa, the tooth fairy, and other fictional characters. Parents tell them these characters are real because its lots of fun to believe in Santa. The Santa lie is a tradition that is seen in every aspect of the American Christmas these days. It is also easier for parents to control their children if the children believe in what the parents say is real. Nobody ever believes it is wrong to lie to kids in a way to make them happy or to keep them safe. The lies can even help teach a child right from wrong and how to be a good person. This is why Santa brings presents to good children.

More examples of how lying can be good would be what if a friend were to wear clothes that do not look good but they think they do. If someone tells them that their clothes look bad, this will make them feel sad and uncomfortable for the rest of the day. However, if they are told that they look good in those clothes, they will feel happy and confident for the rest of the day. No one gets hurt by this type of lie. In the short story call "The Moustache", Mike does not tell his grandmother that she is not talking to her husband because he knows how sad she will become if she realized her mistake. Mike wanted to give her some piece of mind by letting her discuss their argument which she never got a chance to do before the accident. Mike's lie provided her a chance to clear her conscience and no one got hurt by this. It is also a fact that lies can sometimes even help a student get higher grades in school. "Exaggerators tend to be more confident and have higher goals for achievement," explains Richard Gramzow.

Many people say that lying is always bad. When people view lying, they always assume that it has to be bad and it is always used to hurt people. But, that

is because that is how they have been taught to think about lying. Yet the situations above show the opposite. For example, if someone wears the same clothing every day because they think it looks good when it does not, somebody may think they should speak up and tell them the truth. However, this will more likely hurt that person more than help them. Another argument might be that by lying, a person may gain some false confidence. For example, what if somebody was not good at a sport or activity, but they are told they are good? Most people would be crushed if they did not make the sports team or other activity that they were told they were good at. Maybe if were told the truth, they might have practiced more and improved enough to play on the team or in the activity. But maybe they would have lost confidence and further decreased in skill, or not even tried to play at all. How can that truth be helpful?

Telling the truth may be the way to go, but, I believe there is many times that telling a lie can be a better idea. Lying can be good, depending on how you use it. Of course, you could hurt people with a lie, but there are so many ways to use them for the better. People must know where to draw a line when it comes to telling lies and always be responsible, positive, and helpful. Remember most people do lie, it all comes down to how big are the lies and will they help or hurt the person is being lied to. As one "Sunday Morning" correspondent put it, "I don't think it would be possible to have a life full of people who care about you if you didn't lie to them."

### Works Cited

CNNliving. CNN, n.d. Web. 5 Dec. 2012. <[http://articles.cnn.com/2008-09-05/living/o.lying.game\\_1\\_tartuffe-friend-cherry-tree?\\_s=PM:LIVING](http://articles.cnn.com/2008-09-05/living/o.lying.game_1_tartuffe-friend-cherry-tree?_s=PM:LIVING)>.

Cormier, Robert. *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Johnson, Caitlin A. *Is It Ever OK To Lie*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

usnews.com. Ulrich Boser, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

# Lying is Ok

People say lying is bad for you and you will never stop once you have started. Well, I disagree with that statement. From lots of research I can conclude a solid argument on how lying is okay and reasonable. So here are some articles that show that lying is alright.

The first point is lying can help psychological statuses. In studies show that when you lie about your G.P.A you actually might start to do better in class. (Boser) Also, people lie to make themselves feel better and raise self-esteem. (Forbes) Even articles just say, "Small lies can help psychologically". (Boser) Also, if you lie small its okay its not a bad thing there is no one who has never lied before. (Boser) There is no way to tell if you are lying so you may be able to lie to yourself and trick yourself into believing it. (Forbes)

Another point to the case is that we lie for personal reasons as well. A study was performed on how a college student talks to a stranger and he was secretly videotaped and they recorded how many lies he said overall he said 3 lies per 10 minutes. (Forbes) Also, we lie so we can get what we want. (Forbes) Another was when in the short story The Moustache a boy wanted a specific outcome to happen so he said when his mom asked if everything went well with his visit to his grandmother he said it was okay and it was not he only said that so he won't alarm his mother. (The Moustache) In the same story he lied about even wanting to see her because she was in a nursing home and he

felt that she would not remember him. (The Moustache) Lastly, if you wanted to get a job and you wanted to get it really badly lots of people would embellish their credentials to sound a bit more qualified for a certain position than others.

The final point of the argument is lying occurs in everyone's daily lives and starts at a very young age. Studies show how kids learn to lie from their parents. (Boser) They learn to lie because when they are young they are taught of all these magical beings. Like Santa, The Tooth Fairy, The Easter Bunny, and Frosty the Snowman. Since they are not real and most parents say they are that is a lie and that is 1 way how you are taught about lying. Another part of that study shows you start fibbing when you are about 3 years old. (Boser) When you want to be nice you may say things that are not always true but, they help others feel better. (Forbes) We also lie to get ourselves out of trouble. (Boser)

So the 3 main points about how lying is ok. 1<sup>st</sup> is when you lie it can help psychologically. We lie for our own gain or personal reasons. Also lying is a part of people's lives and it starts when you're really young. We all lie it is not a habit or bad a matter of fact is it can be good and you can help people by doing it.

Lying is bad it can harm others and yourself if you lie too much. Everyone knows lying is bad it affects people daily in negative ways and, is also a sin. After researching many articles, a conclusion about lying and if it is bad or not has been made and lying is completely wrong.

Studies do show lying can help grades increase if people lied about them. Even if someone does lie to themselves and gets better at something, lying corrupts a liar.

(BBC) If someone lies about Santa being real people will think he is real. Then again that's basing a claim on false information. (BBC) If lying is okay and people do it frequently people will lose trust in others and you will not be able to trust anyone and, so it's a basic moral wrong. (BBC) That is why lying is bad a lie is a lie big or small everyone has lied.



## Works Cited

Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK."

*US News*. U.S News and World Report, n.d. Web. 6 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

Cormier, Robert. *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., 1996. Print.

"Lying." *BBC*. N.p., n.d. Web. 7 Dec. 2012. <[http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying\\_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying_1.shtml)>.

Rose, Lacey. "Lying Is Good for You." *Forbes.com*. N.p., 24 Oct. 2005. Web. 6 Dec. 2012.

<[http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology\\_cx\\_lr\\_comm05\\_1024lie.html](http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology_cx_lr_comm05_1024lie.html)>.

## Lies Essay

A lot of times lying has a purpose. Depending on the situation with you or another person, lying can be okay. Lying is also healthy when you do it once in a while. To hide a secret or a gift, your feelings, or to make somebody happy, it is okay to tell a white lie so that no problems are started.

If you have to keep a secret for someone or a special gift, it is not a big deal if you lie to people to keep their secret or gift surprise safe. If you got someone a gift for their birthday or a special occasion, then you would try and make sure that they didn't find out about it, so in this case it would be okay to lie. Also, the same would happen if somebody trusted you with their secret. You could lie in this situation because if someone wants to know what the secret is, you could tell them that you don't know of any secret or tell them nothing at all. It is a good idea to lie in these cases because then you will not get harmed and the person's secret or gift will stay protected. (U.S. News)

A good excuse for when lying is necessary is to make somebody feel happy. If you got someone a gift for a special occasion and you didn't like it, you would lie and say that you did like it so you make them feel happy about the gift they choose for you. The same situation would happen with food. If you tried a food that someone made and they asked you to try it, you would say that you liked it even if you did not just to make them happy. Telling them a white lie and saying that you do like the food will make the person who made it feel happy. In "The Moustache" by Robert Cormier, Mike lied to his grandmother by saying to her that he was her husband to make her happy. (Cormier) When your opinion about gifts and food comes into play, you have the right to tell a white lie so you can make the person feel happy.

If you tell somebody that you are okay when you are not, it is okay to lie because you do not have to share your feelings with other people if you do not choose to. In the story "Charles" by Shirley Jackson, Laurie lied to his parents to hide his feelings in class by blaming everything that he actually did on an invisible person named Charles. (Jackson) For example, if somebody asks about how you are feeling from a recent breakup of some sort, then you can lie and say you are just fine when you are really not and just trying to avoid conversation about it. Another example might be if you got really sick and someone asked if you needed help with anything or if you were okay, lying to hide your feelings is okay. It is absolutely okay to lie when speaking about your feeling because you are the only person that needs to know about them and have anything to do with them, not anybody else.

Many people believe that lying is never okay to do. The people who believe this, think that lying can be harmful, can make you lose friends, and that people will stop trusting you. I do not believe this because lying is not always harmful, it can be healthy and helpful sometimes, too. (U.S. News) I do not think that you can lose friends from telling a little lie, because if they are really true friends, they would not leave you. Also, I believe that it depends on the person being lied to. If people think that when somebody lies, the person being lied to will stop trusting the liar, but this is not always the case. Sometimes if the person is a nice friend, they most likely will not care or just forget about it. A lot of the time, the person being lied to will not always care too much about the situation. Lying does not always have to be harmful, and if you have good friends then you will not lose them from lying once in a while.

In conclusion, telling a little white lie is okay when in different situations occasionally. Whenever you or somebody else's feelings are being talked about, it is okay to lie. Your feelings do not have to be shared with other people if you don't want them to be. Making

someone happy by telling them that you liked a gift that they got you or a food that they made you even if you did not like it, it is a great excuse to tell a small lie. Another excuse is if you are trying to hide something like a secret or a special gift. If someone asks what the secret is, you can lie and tell them that you do not know of the secret. Same with a gift, you can tell people that you did not get the person any gift or you can lie about the gift and say it was something else. As you can tell, there are many reasons why telling a little white lie once in a while, can help you achieve a healthy lifestyle. (Ludwig)

# Works cited

Cormier, Robert. "The Moustache." *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Jackson, Shirley. "Charles." *Charles*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Ludwig, Robi. "Truth be told: When it's okay to tell a white lie." *NBC News*.

N.p., 3 Oct. 2007. Web. 5 Dec. 2012. <<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/21110828/ns/today-relationships/t/truth-be-told-when-its-ok-tell-white-lie/>>.

*U.S. News*. N.p., 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

# Lying is fine

A growing body of research shows that people lie constantly, that deception is pervasive in everyday life (were all lying liars). You have said a simple white lie, or deceived or lied to cover up some thing. There is no point in hiding it, everyone has done it. Statistics prove that an average person lies about once an hour. But they are mostly harmless white lies. But a world without lying is a world full of insults. It is bad when we decide to deceive someone and plan it out. Someone usually gets hurt in the end and its usually not the person deceiving, ~~but sometime telling a lie or deceiving someone serves a good purpose~~

~~When you deceive someone, it isn't unexpected, its usually planned out and thought through carefully.~~ But you never know how its going to end, if the person will find out, or you get away with it. It is estimated the over 95 % of people get away with their lies .It is also proven that children as young as months old tend to lie. Studies show that children 3-5 years old typically get away with a lot of the lies they say (basically lying to get away with something). A lot of people find it easy to lie because there are no specific way of telling if a person is lying or not. (Truth about deception)

It is proven that children as young as 6 months old tend to lie. Studies show that children 3-5 years old typically get away with a lot of the lies they say (basically lying to get away with something.) But mostly a white lie is good because if you don't say the lie, and you tell the truth, the person you are lying to will probably get hurt. Example: your

friend Jane got braces and her voice sounds weird, and she asks you if it does, you probably will say it sounds normal, because if you tell the truth and tell her that it does sound weird, she will probably get mad at you and get offended.

The other side of the argument thinks that the world would be a better place if we stopped lying all together, but if we did, you would probably be aware of everything wrong about you, and you would be insulted a lot. They also think that whenever you deceive someone, it is bad, but sometimes it can be good. Sometimes you need to deceive someone because its better not to know the truth, and keep on going how it is.

They make a point that lying can be bad. But I proved a point that it can also be good. The world would probably be a good place to live in if we didn't have deceiving, because most of the time deceiving is used for the bad. The world would be a terrible place to live in if there was no white lies. If there were no normal lies to hide something, you could get kidnapped, or worse because if someone creepy person starts to message you and asks where you live, you cant lie, or peer pressure, you cant say you have to leave, that would be a lie. So whenever you get asked "do you think lying is good or bad in general?" think of these paragraphs.

## Works Cited

Cormier, Robert. *The Mustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

S, Charlie. "Phsycology Behind Why People Lie." *Buzzle*. N.p., 19 July 2012. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<<http://www.buzzle.com/articles/why-people-lie-psychology.html>>.

*Truth About Deception*. Truthaboutseception.com, 2004. Web. 7 Dec. 2012.

<<http://www.truthaboutdeception.com/lying-and-deception.html>>.

"Were All Lying Liars." *US.News*. N.p., 18 Mar. 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://www.US.health.com>>.

"Why Lying Is Bad." *BBC*. N.p., 1 May 2012. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<[http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying\\_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying_1.shtml)>.



## Lies Essay

Sometimes telling a lie can serve a good purpose. There are many different reasons why telling a small lie or a white lie can sometimes be okay. Telling a white lie every once in a while might actually be healthy (Truth Be Told). If you are sparing someone's feelings, being polite, or if you just do not want to talk about the truth, no one could be harmed by telling those lies.

If you are going to hurt someone's feelings by telling the truth, it is okay to lie. If someone has a new haircut or if they are wearing an ugly sweater, or if they made the worst dinner you ever had, it is okay to lie then and say that you like it when you really do not. You are not hurting them, but you are actually making them happier. We are not obligated to tell the whole truth if it hurts someone's feelings (Truth Be Told). It is socially useful to tell lies (We're All Lying Liars). In "The Moustache" by Robert Cormier, Mike told his grandmother that he was her husband just so that she would be happy and she could rest in peace (Cormier).

If you want to be polite by asking questions that you don't really care about at all, it is okay to lie then. For example, when you see someone you know, and ask them "How are you?" or another question but you don't really care at all about the answer. If you are being polite, it cannot hurt anyone. It takes less thinking to tell the expected lie than the truth (We're All Lying Liars). Exaggerators tend to be more confident and have higher goals for achievement (We're All Lying Liars).

Many people believe that lying is never okay. Some people might say lying is not okay when you are talking about your feelings. For example, if you are heartbroken and someone asks you if you are fine, you would want to tell the truth so that they can help you, and say you are not fine. But some people do not like to talk about their feelings or tell other people what happened. It is okay to lie then because if you do not want to share how you really feel, there is nothing wrong with that.

In conclusion, sometimes, but not all times, lying can be okay. Whether you are saving someone's feelings from being hurt, or being polite, or there is just something you do not want to talk about, it is alright to tell a small lie or a white lie every once in a while. As long as it does not hurt anybody, it cannot be harmful. You cannot stop lies entirely; society would grind to a halt (We're All Lying Liars).

## Works Cited

Cormier, Robert. "The Moustache." *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Jackson, Shirley. *Charles*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

*Truth Be Told*. MSN, n.d. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/21110828/ns/today-relationships/t/truth-be-told-when-its-ok-tell-white-lie/>>.

*We're All Lying Liars*. N.p., 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

### Lies Persuasive Essay

Have you ever lied to anyone before? Lying can bring someone down in a negative way. When you lie to someone you don't have their trust. Lying can be hurtful to others.

When someone lies to you, it's hard to trust them. They don't know when they are telling you the truth. When you can't trust them, they're not dependable. It could also destroy your friendship or relationship with others. In "The Necklace" Mathilde didn't tell Mme that she lost her necklace. This could have destroyed their friendship together. When someone needs you to believe them it's hard to believe them because you can't trust them.

Lying starts at a very young age. Kids start to fib around age 3 and starts to lie around age 6(US News). Even though kids are too young to understand, lying is still bad. Most kids learn to lie by observing their parents (US News). Some kids exaggerate the lie and make it worse. Even though lying starts at a very young age, it is never ok.

Most people think that lying is ok. Lying is ok as long as you don't hurt someone. You don't want to make them feel bad. If you tell someone the truth it could hurt them. When you tell someone a lie they will like you better because you're making them feel

better about themselves.

Not all lies are bad but most of them are. They can hurt someone or bring them down. One example is "I hate the clothes that you wear"(US News). That would hurt them and make them feel bad. When you lie to a friend it is hard to receive their trust. It can ruin your friendship with others.

## Works Cited

Jackson, Shirley. "Charles." *Charles*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Maupassant, Guy de. "The Necklace." *The Necklace*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

*US NEWS HEALTH*. N.p., n.d. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and->

[behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and](http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and)>.

## It's Not Okay to Lie

It is said that people who deceive themselves tend to be happier than people who do not. Almost everyone has lied before, whether it's to protect their friends or their feelings. Also for the reason that it is socially useful. However sometimes lying can backfire on a person, that's why lying is not okay, here are a couple of reasons why.

Lying or deceiving shouldn't be acceptable. When a person lies it can sometimes backfire on them. In the short story, "The Necklace" (Guy de Maupassant), it is about a woman named Mme. Loisel who had borrowed a necklace from her friend Mme. Forester. Later that same night, Mme. Loisel loses the necklace. She replaces the necklace losing all her money. Later she runs into her friend Mme. Forester and couldn't lie to her again. She tells her the whole story of how she lost the necklace and replaced it. To her dismay, Mme. Loisel finds out the necklace she borrowed wasn't even real. She finds out she had lost all her money for nothing! This short story shows how sometimes lying can really backfire on someone.

In the article "We're all Lying Liars" (Ulrich Boser), studies show two to three people are lying every ten minutes. In the article it states, "When a person is telling a lie or deceiving someone they usually get fidgety and tense, most times their heart rate speeds up". Another reason why lying is not okay is because it can start at such a young age. In the article it says that, "lying can start at the age of three years old. Eventually by six years old, kids lie a few times a day". Eventually, when they get older it can result in more and more lies to come. This could cause them to change in how they act.

In the short story "Charles" (Shirley Jackson) it gives a perfect example of how lying starts at such an early age. The main character Laurie who is a kindergartner, always comes home telling his mother about a boy named Charles. Everyday Laurie tells his mother how Charles was behaving at school for instance Charles would yell at the teacher or tell other kids to say bad words. One day after hearing enough about Charles, Laurie's mother decides to head down to the school and have a chat with the teacher. Once she arrives she has a talk with the teacher and mentions "Charles". Only to find out there was no such person in the class. Laurie's mother then finds out that "Charles" was really her son. This gives an example of how lying starts at such a young age.

Some people have different opinions as to whether lying is good or bad. ~~Some~~ Someone who believes that lying is okay might support their opinion with these

statements. People usually lie to protect someone's feelings particularly a friend. For example, a person might tell their friend they love their sweater even though they think its hideous. Someone might also lie because its socially useful. In the article "We're all lying Liars" (Ulrich Boser), it states, "When a person lies they have much more confidence than someone who decides not to lie". Another study shows, "That people who tend to lie have higher goals for achievements". Although lying can be useful in ways no one likes to be lied to, and it is seen as morally unacceptable. These examples would be considered as counter arguments as to why lying would be okay.

These are all the examples that explain why lying is not okay. Lying can backfire on someone, even when they think it won't happen. This is why lying can't be deemed as acceptable.



Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies

Can Be OK." *US News Health*. U.S. News & World Report, 18 May 2009. Web. 3

Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/>

[brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/](http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/)

[were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok](http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok)>. \

De Maupassant, Guy. "The Necklace." *The Necklace*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Jackson, Shirley. "Charles." *Charles*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

# Lying?

Is lying okay? Or is it bad? In Studies it is found that each person lies two to three times every ten minutes! We all have lied at least once, if not even more than that. Lying is not always bad. Lying is a habit for most of us and we don't even know it, but lying can be helpful for many reason and for many other things.

Sometimes people don't want to disappoint someone by telling them the truth. also lying can be helpful many of us by using it to stall time for a presentation, interview, school, and more. Studies show that college students that exaggerated on their Gpa scores in interviews they then showed improvements in their grades. "Exaggerators tend to be more confident and have higher goals for achievement"(We're All Lying Liars).It also helps many students achieve higher goals."Exaggerators tend to be more confident and have higher goals for achievement" (We're All Lying Liars).

Alot of people lie so they wont hurt other peoples feelings.In the mostache Michael didnt tell his grandmother the truth because he didnt want his grandmother to feel bad because he had saw how much she had missed her husband after long. By pretending that he was her husband and not telling her he was not Mike, it made her happy.

Many Might disagree. They might say "No one likes being lied to", but many people rather her the lie instead of the truth to make them feel better. Others might say "The bottom line is that a lie is a lie" (We're All Lying Liars). Lies are lies, but if they are white lies to make someone happy.

Lying may not always be right in certain occasion, but if you are making white lies to

avoid hurting someone's feelings. lying in those certain moments lying may be okay. Lying may help people to achieve higher goals in everyday life, college, or school. Lying may be okay in certain times, but depending on the time it's not always the best time to lie.

## Lies Persuasive Essay

How many times do people lie each day to others? A lot more than you expect. Some people have to lie to protect others feelings. Sometimes people lie to protect or to help others. For example if Bob said to Jerry, "You look very nice today", and he lied. Jerry would feel terrible the rest of the day if Bob told the truth and said "You look ugly." It is sometimes okay to lie depending on what the situation is. If you lie to someone, and there is not a good reason then it is bad to lie.

Lying can be used to increase the chance of recovery. An example from the Santa Clara University website was an article titled Lying, and it said, "A doctor tells a depressed patient the he has a 50-50 chance of a long-term recovery when she is confident he'll live only six months" (Mazur). Lying to someone in this situation might have a greater effect on the patient. The patient might even do things in their life that they have never done before. They might even spend more time with their family than they did before. The patient might even get better and live longer than the doctor expected. This is one example of how lying can sometimes be good.

Lying sometimes serves a good purpose in life when you need it the most. Even in nature creatures have to lie in order to capture their prey. For example in The New York Times it said, "-There are fireflies the imitate the blinking of rivals to lure others to their deaths" (Rothstein). Animals would not survive without deceiving other animals. Humans lie instinctively just like animals do, but most times it is not life or death

situations.

Most people think lying is always bad and it is always hard to trust people who lie. Lying is not always bad because it can also benefit the poor. *Santa Clara University*, an article titled *Lying* stated "The money would be wasted or possibly stolen and the poor would be denied an opportunity to benefit" (Mazur). This shows that the man was thoughtful of others and donated the money his mother wanted in her coffin to the poor. It is true that most people don't like to be lied to, but people have to learn to decipher what is true and what are lies.

Lying can be good for many reasons. It is also true that it is hard to trust people when they lie, but now days people lie a lot more than they should. Humans will always lie no matter what. All animals lie in some way either to protect themselves or other animals. It is okay to lie especially when it helps someone. Humans lie instinctively just like animals do, but most times it is not life or death situations.

## Works Cited

Cormier, Robert. "The Moustache." 1996. *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Mazur, Tim C. "Lying." *Santa Clara University*. Santa Clara University, 9 June 1991. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <<http://www.scu.edu/ethics/publications/iie/v6n1/lying.html>>.

Rothstein, Edward. "Arts." *Arts*. New York times, 18 Aug. 2001. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <<http://www.nytimes.com/2001/08/18/arts/must-people-lie-yes-a>>.

*US news Health*. USN, 20 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok?page=2>>.

## Lies Essay

Lying is not always bad. Most people would say that they never lie. But, a study was done proving that most people lie at least one time per day. People who lie tend to be friendlier than those who do not lie as often. Most people believe that people simply lie because it works. Often times we don't even realize that we're lying, we just do it naturally. Sometimes telling a lie or deceiving someone serves a good purpose.

Lying to someone really can change his or her life for the better. For example, in "The Moustache" by Robert Cormier, when Mike went to visit his grandmother in the nursing home, his grandmother thought that he was his grandfather because Mike has a moustache (Cormier). Mike played along with it because he wanted her to be at peace with herself. When Mike lied to his grandmother, he made her life so much better because now she does not have to worry about her husband being angry with her.

By lying, you can easily spare someone's feelings. For example, in the article "We're all Lying Liars", Boser states, "You told a friend that his shirt looked stylish when you actually thought it was tacky and garish." Instead, most people will tell a white lie and say that they love it in order to not hurt their feelings (Boser). This is very true because most people would say that it would be rude to tell someone who just got you a gift, that you don't like it.

Some people might say that most people do not like being lied to. But, that is not true. For example, in the article "Lying is good for you" Rose states that "People are just happy hearing what they want to hear. If they are wearing an ugly shirt and ask you if you like it, if you say yes they will be happy with that because that is what they wanted to hear." (Rose). Most people would not want to lie to their friend and hurt their feelings if the shirt they were wearing is actually ugly.

In all, lying is not always bad. Lying can help people in many ways. A lot of people would associate lying with something bad. But, that is actually not true. Lying helps people with their social life, when a friend gets them an ugly present. Lying can actually change someone's life. Lying serves many good purposes.



## Works Cited

Cormier, Robert. "The Moustache." *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

*Forbes*. N.p., 24 Oct. 2005. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <[http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology\\_cx\\_lr\\_comm05\\_1024lie.html](http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology_cx_lr_comm05_1024lie.html)>.

*We're All Lying Liars*. US News, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

## Lying can be a good thing

Everyone lies, but not everyone lies for good reasons. People lie all the time; almost all lies are little white lies that are harmless. Sometimes telling lies is okay, if the lie serves a good purpose.

In the story The Moustache the main character Mike lies to his grandma. His grandma mistakes Mike as her husband who has been dead for a while. Then she asks Mike for forgiveness. Mike is confused at first, and then he says, "I forgive you." Mike told a lie that made someone else very happy. Lies like that are called white lies. White lies are harmless.

The next reason lying can be a good thing is it can help with work. For example if there is a boss and his friend asks him for a job and the boss doesn't want to hire him because he is not qualified. So the boss just says there are no jobs available. Then the boss doesn't have to hire him and the friend doesn't feel stupid. If people can't lie the world would be a depressing place.

The reasons ~~some~~ some people say lying is a bad thing is because it can be a really bad thing. People lie for bad reasons and good reasons. People who think all lies are bad are people who have probably been hurt by lies or have seen people get hurt by lies. People think white lies are deceiving and mean. If it is a white lie then it ends with no one getting hurt.

So lying can be a good thing and a bad thing. It all depends on how people chose to lie. It isn't bad unless someone gets hurt.

## Works Cited

Cormier, Robert. "The Moustache." 1996. *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

*healthusnews*. healthusnews, 18 May 2009. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

Ludwig, Robi. "Truth be told: When it's OK to tell a white lie." *msnbc*. today, 3 Oct. 2007. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/21110828/ns/today-relationships/t/truth-be-told-when-its-ok-tell-white-lie/>>.

## Lying Is Okay

People think that sometimes lying is okay because you may not want to hurt them. You get that you can lose that person as a friend or you can really hurt someone. But everyone tells lies. Little white lies like Santa or the tooth fairy are great, it gets kids believing in Christmas and having them believe in this stuff is great to me. But a lot of people think even white lies are bad and you never should lie, but everyone does it. Lying is ok because sometimes the truth can hurt and a lot of people do it.

The first reason is sometimes the truth hurts and you can hurt someone's feelings. Like if you are a dad and your son's pet dies but you don't want to break your kid's heart and watch him cry and be hurt you can tell a lie and say it ran away. And like if your friend got a new haircut or a shirt and it's crappy, you just say it looks good to make them happy. In the story The Moustache the character goes to visit his grandma and she thinks that it is her dead husband and it is a weird experience and he told his mom it was fine but it wasn't.

The next reason to lie is people can get better jobs or promotions. A lot of people stretch the truth a little bit by telling them that you have a lot of experience in that field of work when you have no idea. Or little white lies like when your kid believes in Santa and the tooth fairy. In an article it says that telling a white lie every once in a while can actually be healthy when managing interpersonal relationships.

The reason that some people still don't support lying is because it hurt peoples feelings or you lose someones trust. But if people can't lie then people might not get jobs or kids childhoods will be ruined then they turn out to be criminal because they found out Santa was fake a little to early.

Sometimes people blow lying way out of proportion when the truth can hurt a lot more than a little white lie. A lot of people lie a lot and most of the time it is for a good benefits. People lie to get better jobs or to not make someone feel bad, or tell your kid that Santa is still real and they feel great. But these are the reasons I think it is an okay to lie when it is at an appropriate time and if it is a little white lie.

## **Lies Persuasive Essay**

Have you ever been told lying is good for people and could even help them? Recent studies show that lying could be good for you or others. Lying could make somebody happy, lying could keep friendships together, lying could even help your grades. For example, Bob tells somebody at a job interview that his grades are really good but really they are bad. Bob plans to get his grades up before he starts his job so he can try to cover the lie. If you lie to someone the wrong way it could backfire, but if you lie carefully it could work.

Sometimes in life you can lie to make people happy. In the short story "The Moustache" Mike goes to visit his grandmother. When he gets there she thinks that he is her husband and not her grandson. When she starts talking to him like he is her husband he tells her that he is her grandson. She does not understand and makes him say that he forgives her. When he lied he really didn't mean he forgave her, he just wanted to leave because he was beginning to feel uncomfortable with his grandmother. After that he was able to leave. He made her happy by doing what she wanted him to do and it didn't hurt anybody (Cormier).

Lying can keep friendships together. For example Bob might say to Joe "you look

nice today” but if Bob had told the truth (that his shirt was ugly or his haircut was bad) then Bob might feel bad all day. In the short story “The Moustache” Mike lies to his grandmother to keep their relationship together. He lies to comfort her and says “I forgive you, Meg” when she thought he was her husband (Cormier).

Many people might say that lying is bad and that it can be hard to trust someone who lies. Many people say if you lie you are not trustworthy. That can be true, but lying can sometimes help you in life. For example if Bob said to Joe you can sing really well (even though he does not) Joe might believe in himself and get a help to make his voice better. He might even move on to be a singing star. On the other hand, it could make someone mad if they find out you were not being sincere with your praise. Some people might say it is rude to lie, but it could help somebody in life.

So do you still think that lying is always bad for you? Or do you think that lying could be good for you and others? Most people tell a lie or two to spare other people's feelings.



## Works Cited

Cormier, Robert. "The Moustache." 1996. *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

*Psychology Today*. N.p., n.d. Web. 7 Dec. 2012. <<http://www.psychologytoday.com/node/81343>>.

*US News Health*. N.p., n.d. Web. 3 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

# Lies Essay

"Lying is the telling of lies, or false statements; untruthfulness."(dictionary.com) Depending on the situation you or a person is in, lying can be useful. Telling a small white lie is proven that it can make is good for people. Like telling someone that their hair is pretty, and it's not your style, is good for that person's self esteem. Or if a two year old picks up a fake phone and says, "hello" into it, and you know that no one is on the phone, you are still telling a lie. But most of the time we don't recognize that we are lying.

Lying can help with the situation that a person is in. For example, "You told a friend that his shirt looked stylish when you actually thought it was tacky and garish. Or maybe you said to your boss that her presentations were fascinating when in fact they were insipidly mindless."(USN Health) You would want to hurt that person's feelings so you would tell them a small white lie so they don't get hurt. Lying was useful in this situation because by telling a little white lie, you protected your friend's and boss' feeling.

We also use lying protect a friend or loved one. In the story, "The Moustache" by Robert Cormier, Mike who is Nana's grandson goes and visits her at a resting home. He takes traits of his Nana's late husband who was also named Mike. When she came into her room, Nana thought that her grandson was her husband. Mike went along with it so she could die a peaceful death (Manupassant.) This goes to show that lying can be useful because in this situation, Mike really wanted to make sure that his Nana died happily.

We should never lie, we should always tell the truth no matter how bad it may be, we should always tell the truth. For example, "You told a friend that his shirt looked stylish when you actually thought it was tacky and garish."(- USN Health) But from a perspective from someone who tells the truth always they might say, that lying is bad and you should have told your friend that you wouldn't wear that shirt personally, but it looks good on them.

In this situation lying was useful because it helped protect your friend from being hurt. Also this little white lie Another example of why lying is okay is, if your friend or loved one got a gift for your birthday, and you don't like what they got you, should tell them anyway that you like it to spare their feelings from being hurt. Because if that person spent so much time on the gift then it will make them feel good about themselves. A person that would get the same gift that tells the truth all the time, would thank the person that got the gift for them and then tell them that they don't really like it. But they would also tell them that they appreciate them for taking the time to get the gift for them.

In conclusion, lying is sometimes okay because depending on what type of situation you or a person is in, lying can be useful and can protect you and your loved ones. Also lying can help in other ways such as socially. But lying is also can make a person feel better about themselves or even feel special. But, also deceiving others may be a good thing.

## Works Cited

- Cormier, Robert. "The Moustache." *The moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.
- le-monde-selon-fernand.com*. N.p., n.d. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <<http://le-monde-selon-fernand.com>>.
- "lying." *bbc ethic lying*. N.p., n.d. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.
- <[http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying\\_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying_1.shtml)>.
- "lying." *http://uhohnowlook.blogspot.com/2005/03/why-lying-is-wrong.html?m=1*. N.p., n.d.
- Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <<http://uhohnowlook.blogspot.com/2005/03/why-lying-is-wrong.html?m=1>>.
- Manupassant, Guy de. "The Necklace." *The necklace*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.
- "we are all lying liars." *u.s. news*. N.p., n.d. Web. 3 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com>>.

## **Lying is Never Okay**

Have you ever been lied to? It's not the best experience you will ever have. Like when your friend invites you over and then tells you that you he can't have friends over. Then the next day in school you find out that your friend had one of his other friends over and not you. No one likes to be lied to. Lying is never okay and it hurts everyone in a negative way. Lying even starts at a young age theses days.

Lying has started in your youth and it has become a problem. The youngest age that kids have started lying is age 3(Boser). This is a problem, they will almost be lying their whole life. 6 year olds lie a few times a day. If you were a parent would you want you child lying to you a couple times a day. If we don not teach our youth not to lie then they will not know any better and they will think its okay. A former FBI agent says, "Its no fun being lied to and it hurts". Lies add up and they can hurt you and others in the long run.

When you lie you are covering up the truth. For example in "The Necklace" by Guy De Maupassant. The main character loses her friend's necklace and instead of telling her friend, she spent 10 long years working to try to repay her friends for the necklace. So when she got enough money to buy a new one her friend said that her necklace was a fake. The ladies friend wasn't mad so they spent all that time and money trying to cover up a lie. But some times lying can help you.

Most experts believe that small lies are ok. Lying can prevent people from getting hurt (Johnson). For example when you get an ugly shirt for you birthday, and you say "Oh that's cool". You can prevent people from getting hurt. Some experts believe that

lying is okay because it is a natural part of being human. This is wrong because lying is never all right and any lie can be found out and it could hurt the person who was lied to.

Those are some reasons and examples why lying is never okay. Lying is never okay it can hurt people who have been lied to and also the liar. Covering up lies can take a lot of time and money. Lying is also not ok because even our youth has started lying. That is why lying is never okay and it should stop.

By:



## Works Cited

Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK."

*US News*. World Report LP, 20 May 2009. Web. 18 May 2009.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and->

[behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok](http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok)>.

De Maupassant, Guy. "The Necklace." 1884. *The Necklace*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Johnson, Caitlin A. "Is it ever ok to lie." *cbs news*. Interactive Inc, 11 Feb. 2009. Web. 11 Feb.

2009. <[http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-3445\\_162-2897896.html](http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-3445_162-2897896.html)>.

# *Lying is Sometimes Necessary*

Everyone thinks lying is bad. But ask yourself this: how many lies do YOU tell every day? Sometimes it is necessary to lie. It is a fact that we all lie multiple times every day whether it is to make someone happy or just to fit in, we all lie every single day.

Surprisingly, lying can actually make you a better person. Have you ever received a gift from a relative such as your grandma or your aunt that you didn't like? What did you say? Did you tell them the truth, that you did not like the gift they gave you, or did you tell a lie, and tell your grandma or aunt that you really liked the gift that they had given you? Unless you want your grandma or your aunt to hate you for telling them something mean like telling them that you hated the sweater they gave you, you probably lied to them. That is a common lie that we all tell sometime in our lives. As you can see lying in a way (surprisingly), CAN make you a better person.

Another thing you may not know is that studies have shown that lying can improve your grades! "Studies released in 2008 showed that college students who exaggerated their gpa's later showed improvement in grades." That's really surprising! Who would have thought that lying can actually improve your grade! That's a great reason why lying can actually sometimes be good.

For some reason many people don't agree that lying can sometimes be necessary. One example of why someone would think that is in the short story The Necklace, the main character tells a lie and faces big consequences. She does not tell her friend she lost the necklace and later



when she sees her friend again her friend is really surprised! Her friend told her, “ Oh Mathilde. But mine were false. At most they were worth five hundred francs!”That is an example of why lying can be bad for you.

In conclusion lying can improve your grades, make you a better person and do so much more for you. But lying isn't always good. Some people say lying is a form of deception and will just lead to more lies and less friends. But the truth is Lying is good and bad at the same time. But lying is sometimes necessary in life.

## Works Cited

Cormier, Robert. "The Mousthace." 1996. *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

*Healthusnew*. US news, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

Ludwig, Rob. "Truth be told: When it's OK to tell a white lie." *Wwww.msnbc.com*. Today, 3 Oct. 2007. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/21110828/ns/today-relationships/t/truth-be-told-when-its-ok-tell-white-lie/>>.

## **Why Lying is Good for You**

Many people would say that lying is bad, that no one will trust you. But, in reality, telling little white lies can actually make people like you more, because people really only want to hear positive things about themselves. So, lying can be okay when you're trying to save someone's feelings.

In "The Moustache" by Robert Comier, the main character, Mike, lies to his grandmother. He "forgives" her, pretending to be his grandfather that Mike's grandmother is mistaking him for. He had lied, because she had accused her husband of cheating on her. Her husband never did, and she never got to apologize before he passed away. Mike had used lying to keep his grandmother, Meg's, feelings at ease and so she would be able to die in peace knowing that she had been "forgiven".

According to Lacey Rose, honesty is not always the best policy. Lacey states in her article that people lie because it works, and people are more likely to like people that tell little lies. People that are found most friendly are the ones that usually tell lies to make others feel better. This is what makes them come off so friendly. Also, it has been proven that people that are more honest with themselves and others are more depressive and are not as mentally healthy as people that do lie.

1.

Ulrick Boser's article says that people can always tell when they are being lied to. The article says that it is the body language that gives it away, such as the person that

is lying is most likely to not make much movement and their arms go stiff and also, their pupils may dilate. But people can only tell when others are lying to them about 50% of the time. This is because people only like to hear what pleases them because otherwise they get upset or continue to ask until the answer they want is said. Therefore, people do not pay much attention to stiff arms or dilated pupils, if it is what they like, they will take it.

So, this why lying is acceptable. It has been proven that it is good for you. People that lie more often than people, who do not, are also viewed as friendly and more mentally healthy. When people lie to people they care about it is okay because they want to keep them happy and are being careful not to upset them. So, lying can be okay when trying to save someone's feelings.

## Works Cited

Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK."

*Health U.S. News*. U.S. News, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

- - -. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK." *Health*

*U.S. News*. U.S. News, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

Comier, Robert. "Short Story." *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Rose, Lacey. "Lying Is Good For You." *Forbes*. Forbes, 24 Oct. 2005. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<[http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology\\_cx\\_lr\\_comm05\\_1024lie.html](http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology_cx_lr_comm05_1024lie.html)>.



## Everyone Is A Liar

Some people may say that they are honest people, but they are actually lying when they say that. Lying is generally known as bad or sinful. Lying has become a practice in our daily lives(Rose). There is really no way in avoiding it. The truth hurts so, sometimes it is adequate to lie if it is for a purposeful cause.

In certain situations lying can be used to put someones mind at ease. In "The Moustache" by Robert Cormier, Mike's Grandma thinks that Mike is her husband who had passed away. Mike's grandmother is asking for "her husband's" forgiveness. To put her at ease, Mike said he forgave her. This lie was used to make his grandmother feel at ease and worry free.

Sometimes it is respectable to use lies to keep others happy on a daily basis. "We use lies to maintain relationships and please others" writes Rose. For example, say a person receives a gift that they do not particularly like. The one person might tell the person who gave them the gift that they like it, just to make the person feel better. In Ulrich Boser's article he states, "We use lies to grease the wheels of social discourse". In both articles the authors are stating that lying is used to keep our relationships healthy and happy.

Lying to oneself may also be beneficial. "People who deceive themselves also tend to be happier" writes Boser. In Ulrich Boser's article he explains that it is healthy to lie to oneself. Studies show that depressive people are more honest with themselves than mentally healthy people(Rose). As people may notice, being too honest with oneself may harm them in the ways it should not. Not only does it maintain happiness, but it also maintains grades. In a few cases,

lying actually helped students improve their education. A study showed that college students who lied about their GPA in interviews actually improved (Boser). By the students lying about their GPA, the students later improved in school. In this situation, lying helped students raise their grades.

Some people may say it is never acceptable to lie. They might say no matter the situation, the truth should always be told. Consider this. "In truth we consider those who are too honest to be blunt, antisocial and pathological" writes Rose. If we are too brutally honest, we can harm other people. "It reduces society's general respect for truth" writes BBC. That is not true. In many cases the truth can be harmful. "Nobody wants to hear that they look heavier or less attractive" writes Rose. Rose is correct, many do not feel better about themselves when they hear the truth. Others say that they value honesty. "So while we'd like to say we value honesty, we also value dishonesty," says the University of New England's Smith. People value honesty just as much as lying.

Lying is a controversial topic. No matter what people believe on this topic, lying will always be acceptable if it is used for a purposeful cause. Sometimes, the truth hurts and we need to protect ourselves and the people we love.

Alyssa Works Cited

*BBC*. BBC, 2012. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <[http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying\\_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying_1.shtml)>.

Cormier, Robert. *The Moustache*. Australia: HarperCollins, 1996. Print.

Rose, Lacey. "Lying Is Good For You." *Forbes*. Forbes, 2012. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<[http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology\\_cx\\_lr\\_comm05\\_10241ie.html](http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology_cx_lr_comm05_10241ie.html)>.

*U.S. News*. U.S. News & World Report, 2012. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.



## Lying can sometimes be ok

Everyone thinks lying is bad but has anyone ever thought that lying might have a good purpose? For example protection of feelings, protection of your surroundings and the fantasy and fun for young children.

Lying can sometimes protect the feelings of someone you care about, for example if someone is about to die, you don't tell a small kid that their family member is about to die.

This is an example of how a small lie can protect the feelings of someone.

Another example of this is if a friend gets a new shirt and they ask you if you like it but you really don't. You lie to protect their feelings. Lying to protect their feelings is something a good friend would do. People who lie to protect feelings sixty five percent of the time have a better relationship with friends and family. (BBC)

Secondly lying can protect someone from your surroundings. For example if someone is in a place where in time something bad might happen, lying to them to get them out of the place is ok. Lying to protect someone from their surroundings can prevent them from a dangerous situation. This kind of lying protects a life and or a person from being physically or emotionally injured. Many believe protection from surroundings is a very important thing and a lie we

occasionally have to tell. The article "Lying and its Benefits" written by Santa Clara University describes this type of lying very well.

Thirdly lying can make things fun for young children. For example parents often times make up fantasy characters such as "Santa Claus", "Tooth Fairy" or "Easter Bunny" to make the holidays and childhood seem more fun. These kind of lies are practically harmless because one hundred percent of the time children get older and find out that these fantasy characters aren't real, and they grow out of it. Sources show that eighty percent of children who had these fantasy characters as children had a better childhood. ("Is it ok to lie about Santa?" By, Laura Lewis Brown.)

Lastly lying is also said to be a very wrong and can ruin long time relationships. Lying is a topic that many say is "Wrong! It can put you in bad places. Also, it can make people dislike you and have thoughts that aren't true" states "What was I thinking" an article written by a woman who says lying took over her life. Seventy percent of relationships in youth end because of lying and distrust. Many people say lying is truly wrong.

In conclusion many sources show that lying in some situations can be ok. In the cases of protection of feelings, protection from your surroundings and the fantasy

and fun for young children. Basically lying can sometimes be justified as ok when the situation deems appropriate.

## Works Cited

Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK."

*health.usnews.com*. US News, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<[http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-](http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok)

[behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok](http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok)>.

Brooks, Susie. "What Was I Thinking?" *Blogspot.com*. UhOhNowLook, 2012. Web. 11 Dec.

2012. <<http://uhohnowlook.blogspot.com/2005/03/why-lying-is-wrong.html>>.

Cormier, Robert. *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Lewis-Brown, Laura. "Is it Okay to Lie About Santa?" *PBS.org*. PBS, 2003. Web. 11 Dec. 2012.

<<http://www.pbs.org/parents/special/article-winter-is-it-okay-to-lie-about-santa.html>>.

"Lying and Telling the Truth." *BCC.co.uk*. N.p., 2012. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<[http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying\\_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying_1.shtml)>.

Mazur, Tim C. "Lying and its Benefits." *SCU.edu*. Santa Clara University, 2009. Web. 4 Dec.

2012. <<http://www.scu.edu/ethics/publications/iie/v6n1/lying.html>>.

## **Lying Is Normal**

Sometimes lying can be a good thing. It depends on how big someone's lie is though. If someone says that someone else's shirt looks cool, but in reality it does not, that is an "okay" lie. If someone overexaggerates over a small situation, and they have to keep covering their lie to make it believable, that is considered a big lie that is not good. The reason why that is a big lie, and it is not good to make a big lie, is because whoever is lying will have to keep covering up their lie just so they do not get caught.

Lying is normal, or at least that is what Boser's article says. When he wrote his article, he wrote about how "little white lies" are not a bad thing to do. In fact in his article it says, "It's socially useful to lie." Telling small lies, can socially boost anyone's social status. People lie constantly. Studies have shown that people lie 2-3 times every 10 minutes without even knowing they did.

In "The Moustache", Mike told his Grandmother that he was her ex-husband. Mike was not really her ex-husband. Mike's Grandmother thought he was her ex-husband because, he looked like her ex-husband, plus she is very old, and she was in the hospital at the time. He did not make up the lie on purpose, he just wanted his Grandmother to rest in peace, when she passed away. Mike also lied about shaving off his moustache. He told his mom that he would shave it off, so his mom would not keep freaking out about his moustache. He also told his mom a small lie talking about what happened at the hospital. Him and his Grandmother were talking about what happened to "their relationship" in the past. Mike acted like her ex-husband, lied, and said that he accepted his Grandmother's apology for accusing him that he cheated on her. Mike never told his mom about what happened at the hospital. All he said was that everything was fine.

Another example, is in the story "The Necklace". The main character Mathilde, lied about a diamond necklace she lost while she was at a fancy party. She was driving home in a cab, and when she got out, she realized the necklace was gone. She told her husband, and ordered her husband to look everywhere for it. They could not find the necklace at all. She lied to the person who gave her the necklace and said that she was getting it repaired. Mathilde and her husband somehow had to get almost \$40,000. Mathilde had got the necklace but now she has to pay everyone back who gave her money. She worked 10 long years only to find out that the diamond necklace did not even have real diamonds in it. Because of one big lie she told her friend, she worked 10 years for nothing. Big lies like the one that Mathilde made to her friend, are lies that should not be told.

The counter argument is when in Boser's article talks about how lying can at times, not be good. "We feel betrayed when people lie to us." (Boser) is just one quote of why lying is not good. "When are we going to know they're telling the truth?" (Boser) is another quote that can be true to other peoples opinion, only if the person that they are questioning about lying, lies a lot. Also in Boser's article, it says "People lie so they won't hurt someone else". That statement is can be true because, some lies are made so that others will not be offended or hurt in anyway.

Lying is normal, only because people lie everyday without even knowing that they lied. Lying is part of everybody's life, no matter what they think. People lie to themselves sometimes, and the do not even want to admit that they do. This is why lying can be normal, even though people lie and they do not think that they are lying.

## Works Cited

- Boser, Ulrich. "Were All Lying Liars." *health.usnews.com*. US News, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.
- Cormier, Robert. "Short Story." *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.
- Rose, Lacey. "Lying Is Good For You." *Forbes*. Forbes, 24 Oct. 2005. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <[http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology\\_cx\\_lr\\_comm05\\_1024lie.html](http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology_cx_lr_comm05_1024lie.html)>.

## How Lying can be good for you

Lying is usually thought of as bad but in reality it isn't. Sometimes telling a white lie or deceiving someone serves a good purpose. This may include saving a relationship or giving someone a compliment that you don't totally agree with. These are a few of reasons why lying is good and should not be looked down upon.

According to the University of Massachusetts, "We use lies to grease the wheels of social discourse (Bozer)." What this suggests is that it is socially useful to tell lies (Bozer). In the article "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies and Why White Lies Can Be OK," it gives a great example of this when they say "Admit it: You've lied. You told a friend that his shirt looked stylish when you actually thought it was tacky and garish (Bozer)." Another great example from this article says, "Maybe you said to your boss that her presentations were fascinating when in fact they were insipidly mindless (Bozer)." These examples show that lying can help in certain social situations where telling the truth would make people feel uncomfortable.

Lies are also told to please ourselves and others (Lacey Rose). When we ask a friend if we did a good job, we want the answer to be yes, despite its legitimacy (Lacey Rose). Also, people who lie to themselves often seem happier than their honest counterparts (Lacey Rose). And lying has proven psychological benefits (Lacey Rose). For example, there is scientific evidence showing that depressed people are more honest with themselves than people who are



And lying has proven psychological benefits (Lacey Rose). For example, there is scientific evidence showing that depressed people are more honest with themselves than people who are not depressed (Lacey Rose). Most people who pull through from their depressions become less honest (Lacey Rose).

Although lying has many benefits, according to “Lying is Bad for Your Health” there are some flaws. One of these flaws is that it can cause unnecessary stress and anxiety (Dr. Maoshing Ni). But this claim is not entirely true for lying is what can get you out of stressful situations. The article also suggests lying can hurt others (Dr. Maoshing Ni). But this statement is not true for lying can protect others from the harsh truth and make people feel better.

In conclusion, although there are some downsides to lying, the many benefits outweigh the few negatives. People who tell white lies for the right reasons – to protect people’s feelings or ease social situations – are happier, have more friends and generally get along with people better than those who are honest 100 percent of the time. That is why lying should not be discouraged but rather embraced by society.

## Works Cited

- Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK." *Health*. N.p., 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.
- Cormier, Robert. "The Moustache." 1996. *The Moustache*. By Cormier. N.p.: n.p., 1996. 1-7. Print.
- Ni, Maoshing. "Lying is Bad for Your Health." *Yahoo Health*. Yahoo, n.d. Web. 6 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.yahoo.net/experts/drmao/lying-bad-your-health>>.
- Rose, Lacey. "Lying Is Good For You." *Forbes.com*. N.p., 24 Oct. 2005. Web. 6 Dec. 2012. <[http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology\\_cx\\_lr\\_comm05\\_1024lie.html](http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology_cx_lr_comm05_1024lie.html)>.

## Sometimes Lying Is Okay

Imagine you get two tickets to the Football game and you want to take your friend but your dad just asked to go. Are you going to tell your dad your going with a friend and hurt his feelings? Sometimes telling a lie or deceiving someone serves a good purpose.

Lying helps people from hurting other people's feelings with the truth. In the article "We Are All Lying Liars" Robert Feldman says, "We use lies to grease the wheels of social discourse, it is socially useful to lie (BOSER)." Lying helps protect people from the truth, which sometimes hurts. People tell lies so other people can be happy. Lying can also help protect people's feelings. That's only a couple reasons why people tell lies; another reason is they want to let people feel at ease.

Lying allows people to let other people feel at ease and less stressed out. In the short story "The Moustache" by Robert Cormier, Mike tells his mom that the visit with his grandmother went well when actually Mike had thought it was scary. Also in "The Moustache" Mike lied to his grandma so she would feel at ease and die happily (CORMIER). Mike used lies to benefit himself. That's why lying to someone can help them feel at ease and not as stressed out.

Some people say you should never lie but every once in a while lying is okay. People could say lying is a sin but not all people are religious. Also people say that it is always good to be honest but sometimes its better to lie and save someone's feelings from getting hurt. Other people say lies at up, the more you know that someone is not telling the truth the less trustworthy you are, however if you tell lies every once in a while

to save someone's feelings from getting hurt you are still a trustworthy person (Meridian Schools). Although these reason seem reasonable every once in a while lying wont hurt.

Those are the reasons why sometimes lying or deceiving someone can serve a good purpose. Lying helps people from hurting other peoples feelings, how lying allows other people to feel at ease, and what some people think about lying. That is why lying can sometimes be okay.

## Works Cited

BOSER, ULRICH. We'er All Lying Liars. *US News*. US News, 2012. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

Cormier, Robert. "The Moustache." 1996. *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

*Meridian Schools*. Scholastic, 9 Jan. 2012. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<<http://www.meridianschools.org/EMS/Staff/LP/Lewis/AssignmentsInformation/Is%20it%20OK%20to%20Lie%20Article.pdf>>.

# Lying is Ok

People lie in order to protect people from the truth. If someone's sweater is really ugly, no one would tell them that it is. It would hurt their feelings. A little white lie is ok if you know when to use it. Sometimes telling a lie or deceiving someone serves a good purpose.

In the article by Boser, he talks about lying. He says that people use lies to grease the wheels of social discourse. Meaning, lies make people more social. Lies are all around us and if people use them properly, they can be a good thing. Sometimes lies can be good if people use them properly.

People lie to their family in order to protect them and keep them happy. In the story "The Moustache", by Robert Cormier, Mike told a lie to his mom. He visited his grandmother and she died when he was with her. When he went home he told his mom that the visit went well with his grandma. He told her that so she would not be sad. Therefore protecting her from the truth. This is a way that a lie can be beneficial to others.

Some people may argue that lies are *not* good. People say that lies don't make people more social. The people who say that have definitely lied once in their life. In the article by Boser, a Former FBI agent states that "No one likes to be lied to". Yet FBI agents have to lie for a living. If an FBI agent says that people don't like to be lied to, then why did he? That proves that everyone lies.

People everywhere lie. Whether it is an FBI agent or a boy lying to his mother. Everybody lies at some point. People do it to get more popular. It is ok to lie if it protects someone from emotional harm. Sometimes telling a lie or deceiving someone serves a good purpose.

## Works Cited

Cormier, Robert. *Moustsche*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Ludwig, Robi. "Truth be told: When it's OK to tell a white lie." *Today Relationships*. MSN, 3 Oct. 2007. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/21110828/ns/today-relationships/t/truth-be-told-when-its-ok-tell-white-lie/>>.

*US News Health*. US News and World Report, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.



## **The Truth About Lying**

“Truth, like light, blinds. Falsehood, on the contrary, is a beautiful twilight that enhances every object” (ALBERT CAMUS). Lying. Everybody does it. In the quote above, Camus talks about the truth and how it blinds like light. When he mentions lying he says it changes and makes everything beautiful. So Camus would agree when one might say that sometimes lying serves a good purpose.

Lying happens every day when we are talking with our friends or with our parents. Well according to “We’re All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK”, people tell two to three lies in every ten minutes. “It is socially useful to tell lies”(Boser). It is only natural when one might tell lies when one talks to another person. When people stretch the truth they tend to follow up on the lie they just spoke. Like when students are being interviewed for a job and they bump up their GPA, their grades get better following the interview. Also when someone might lie, studies show they tend to be nicer and friendlier towards strangers.

Whether lying is in a story or in a movie or a relative lie you will be faced with lying all your life. But most of the time it will be to protect someone or something you love. The main reason people lie is to protect others so they do not get hurt. Like in the story “The Moustach” Mike’s grandmother thought that Mike was her husband instead of her grandson. Mike was very scared at first then remembered that she has no memory but she can remember all the horrible things that happened between her and her husband. “Say you forgive me, Mike. I’ve waited all these years. . . .” All Mike’s grandmother wanted is for her husband to forgive her. Mike knew that if his

grandmother was going to die soon she deserves to die happy and Mike knew that it would not hurt anybody if he said he forgave his grandmother as his grandfather.

Lying is a way of survival. For example, when animals see a predator coming, they lie by playing dead to survive. Also when two people talk there will be at least ten lies and during the conversation. But when we listen to this conversation, we look for the lies and analyze them, that is how society stays alive between people. If we as a society stopped lying all together, everything would come crashing down. Also by age 3 you have learned to tell a fib like "Thank you grandmother I love the sweater!" But by age 6 you have learned to tell a real lie because of what you hear from your mom and dad like "no honey the dress doesn't make you look fat." Everyone and everything lies, it is just a way of life.

Telling a little lie can be ok but some people do not think so. One might say that lying can hurt someone, but really they are just protecting someone from them getting hurt. Also they might say that it can get someone in trouble, but really if someone gets into trouble and you lie for them, you are helping them. One might also say that it is morally wrong, but if someone lies to help a person or make them feel better then it is OK because they are doing them a favor and helping them.

When someone reads a book, or sees in a movie and someone lying, they should realize that a little white lie is ok. Everybody lies, and it is OK. So as you can see people lie every day whether you want it to happen or not you can not stop it, its just survival.

## Works Cited



Boser, Ulrich. "We're all lying liars: Why people tell lies and why white lies can be OK." *US News HEALTH*. U.S. News & World Report, 2012. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.  
<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

Cormier, Robert. *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., 2010. Print.

Leong, Melissa. "The truth about lying: It's good for you, trust us." *National Post*. Postmedia Network Inc, 2012. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <<http://life.nationalpost.com/2011/06/24/the-truth-about-lying-its-good-for-you-trust-us/>>.

Maupassant, Guy De. *The Necklace*. N.p.: n.p., 1995. Print.

## *Sometimes Lying is Reasonable*

People might think lying is not okay, but just think about this; it can be for a good reason. Sometimes telling a lie or deceiving someone is for a good cause. Many lies can be polite lies. For example if someone says that is a really pretty shirt and they really do not like it that is consider a polite lie. Some people do not understand that it can hurt you if you tell the truth , that is why people use polite lies to cover up the real truth.

Sometimes lying to someone is okay only so they will not get hurt . A growing body of research shows that people lie constantly (Boser 1). Even if someone thinks lying is not okay, it actually is because they do it too. Its normal to be a liar. People lie 2-3 times every 10 mins without realizing that they even lied (Boser 1). This proves that people who are against lying, lie too, so technically, it is not wrong to lie.

In the story the Moustache mike lied about shaving his moustache. He told his grandmother that he was her ex- husband , and he really was not . He only did that to make her happy so it is okay that he lied to her. He told her that he accepts her apologize for accusing him of cheating, to make her rest in peace. Mike helped his mom not to stress about what had happened that night. He told her everything went fine at the hospital. When really mike was lying because he was hurting inside but he also wanted his mom to be calm and not stress so it was okay for him to lie.

Another good story example on lying is the story called "The Necklace". In this story she learns a lesson about how lies can be good and bad. The reason why this statement could be true is because of the lie she told her friend. She also learned a good lesson from her mistakes. She lied about losing her friend's diamond necklace, but it was okay because it was fake. Mathilde did not know that the necklace had fake diamonds at the time. Mathilde spent 10 years paying back money that she did not have, to the people that loaned her the money. When she finally told her friend about how the necklace that was missing, and the necklace that her friend had was not the original diamond necklace, her friend told her some shocking news. The diamond necklace was fake. Because of Mathilde's lie, she had to pay back almost \$40,000. If she told the truth, she would not have had to spend a decade working.

The counter argument is about the Boser article and what he says in it. One thing that was said in the article was "We feel betrayed when people lie to us (Boser)." Another thing that was said in the article is "When are we going to know that they are telling the truth" (Boser). This can be true to other people, only because people lie too much. People only lie so they will not have to hurt the other person's feelings.

In Conclusion sometimes lying can prove a point. Even though people lie when it is not okay, maybe it can help them because they will not have to go through the pain of hurting someone's feelings. It can also help people get jobs and succeed more in life if they tell a polite lie. In this case lying is normal because a lot of people do it and it may help them in life. If you tell a lie just know it is okay only if that person knows it will not hurt someone.

## Works Cited

Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK."

*health.usc*. Ulrich Boser, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<[http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-](http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok)

[behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok](http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok)>.

Cormier, Robert. *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., 1996. Print.

De Maupassant, Guy. *The Necklace*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

## Lying Truths

"I'm not upset that you lied to me, I'm upset that from now on I can't believe you"(Friedrich Nietzsche). Lying. Everybody has their own way of looking at it. Everybody has their own opinion. Friedrich's opinion was very wise, although people lie there is no point to it because then we are not trusted. People may say white lies are okay or lying makes the world go round. Others think that lying is just plain wrong and shouldn't be done. The thought that should go through everyone's head is that it is never a good idea to lie or deceive someone. There is no point to lying, and in the end we are just left to suffer with our consequences.

Sometimes lying is supposed to protect the people we care about, but is it the right thing to do? "Still, lying is generally regarded as immoral and distasteful"(Boser). Lying is not good or nice, especially if someone is asking for your opinion. Just tell them your opinion. Sometimes people don't want to hurt the person, but we are not if we just tell the truth. We hurt people more when we lie to them. Boser writes, "No one likes being lied to, we feel betrayed." "When are they telling the truth." After you lie, or someone lies to us, how do we know when they will tell us the truth. Lying is just pointless. Every show you've ever watched, every movie, the characters have a secret or something they are hiding. Then when they try to hide it people always find out and there is this big climax to the story. Stories need this climax or turning point, your life doesn't. People should not add the unneeded, and unwanted climax in our lives. Whether it is now or later, there is no difference you lied.

When people lie there are consequences, usually bad. They can get into trouble, lose relationships, even hurt themselves. When a person lies they are being selfish or greedy. They lie to protect themselves because they are scared. In 'The Necklace', Madame Loisel is very greedy and poor and because of this she gets herself into a predicament. She lies and replaces a very valuable necklace she borrowed and lost, or so she thought. As the story 'The Necklace' states, "At the end of ten years they had paid everything back, everything, with rates of usury and all accumulation of heaped-up interest." After the ten years of hard work, when she tells her friend about it all, she finds out the necklace she borrowed was fake and worthless. In the end lying to her friend backfired and was completely pointless. This is a perfect example of why lying is a terrible idea. Lying does not only harm others it hurts the person who lied as well.

No one wants to get into trouble. We all lie because we are scared of something, sometimes scared of getting into trouble. " 'Lying will not get you anywhere in life,' student Monica Calvert said" (Johnson). In the article 'Is It Ever OK To Lie?' This student states that lying is pointless and she is right, it is absolutely pointless. Another fact is that it is easy to lie, that is why we do it, but it is even easier to tell the truth. Why lie when you can tell the truth? Why lie, if you know that you could get into trouble for lying? If a person lies because they know they'll get into trouble for the original truth, then don't they think they will get into more trouble for lying about it? That's exactly what people do though, they don't think before they act. "Josephson said, 'Ethics is like a virus. A positive virus. And it will spread. And we're gonna change pieces of the world, piece by piece' " (Johnson). What Josephson was saying is that if we change peoples ethics to lying is not good, little by little people will change. Start a chain reaction. Just



how lying started by one person telling a lie, we will stop it with one person telling the truth.

Some people may say that lying has a good purpose. That white lies are okay. One example would be a friend asking if they liked their shirt. People who tell white lies, and think it is okay, will say that the shirt is pretty if they disagree. But what is the point? If you are really friends with the person, and they are asking for your opinion, why not just tell them? Maybe the person does not like the shirt, so what. If it's not your style, just say so. Other people might also say, what about lying to Grandma? She gave us socks for Christmas. Grandma asks if we like the socks, just say they are a nice present and make sure she knows what you will want next year. Lying to her is just childish, you do not have to say you hate them, just do not lie. Besides it is the thought that counts, right?

Lying is a bad idea. People can hurt others and ourselves, we can lose relationships and suffer bad consequences, and it is just wrong. It is never a good idea to lie or deceive someone. What's the point? What do you get out of it? Just tell the truth, and everything will be just fine.

## Works Cited

Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies and Why White Lies Can Be OK."

*Health.usnews.com*. USNews, n.d. Web. 3 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

De Maupassant, Guy. *The Necklace*. N.p.: Harper Collins, 1996. Print.

Johnson, Caitlin A. "Is It Ever OK to Lie?" *Cbsnews.com*. CBS, n.d. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<[http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-3445\\_162-2897896.html](http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-3445_162-2897896.html)>.

Nietzsche, Friedrich. "Lying Quotes." *Nonstopquotes.com*. NonStopQuotes.com, n.d. Web. 6

Dec. 2012. <<http://www.nonstopquotes.com/lying-quotes/>>.

## Lying is Great

Many people deny that they lie, but in fact they do. We lie because it works. We lie to protect people, to avoid punishment, and even to please others. Lying can be good for society.

We lie for many reasons, like to make people like us or to make a story more exciting. For example one might say a friend is about to get in trouble for something he has done wrong but, another person was also apart of what he did. Instead of him taking all the blame the other person could come in and protect him by saying it was all my fault or he didn't do anything. That lie could get him and the person out of any punishment.

We also lie to ourselves. For example in the "Boser Article" it states that when we lie to ourselves it make us happy and feel better about ourselves. It also states that people who lie to themselves are actually happier than people who do not.

Some body might argue that lying is not great because, it makes you a untrustworthy person. Lying doesn't always make someone a untrustworthy person. Some lies have nothing to do with being trustworthy, like say someone ate someone's chicken noodle soup and they lied about it saying that they didn't and you found out they lied. That doesn't make the person that ate your chicken noodle soup an untrustworthy person, it just means that someone ate that person's chicken noodle soup and lied about it.

People lie, it's apart of life. Without lying society would boring and nothing exciting would happen. From the time we are born, to the time die we lie our entire lives.

## Works Cited

*Forbes*. N.p., 23 Oct. 2005. Web. 6 Dec. 2012. <[http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology\\_cx\\_lr\\_comm05\\_1024lie.html](http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology_cx_lr_comm05_1024lie.html)>.

Robert, Comier. *The Moustach*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

*Us news health*. ULRICH BOSER, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

Mrs. O’Gorman

Pd.5

December 5, 2012

### The Truth Hurts

Lying is natural, everyone lies. In fact, studies show that people tend to tell 2 to 3 lies every ten minutes. But is lying ever the right thing to do (Boser)? In some occasions it is not the wrong thing to do to tell a little lie to help save someone from getting his or her feelings hurt. The truth is usually the best way to go, but not always because sometimes the truth hurts. If one would always tell the truth then that individual would be considered rude. But if one told a lie every once in awhile you will not be considered a horrible person. The fact is one cannot always be honest. So it is not always wrong to tell lies in the right time and the right place.

Lying can be used to put people at ease. In the story “The Moustache”, Mike goes to visit his grandmother in the nursing home; he is uncertain whether or not his grandmother would remember him. When he gets to the nursing home, his grandmother mistakes him for her husband who had passed away. Mike lets his grandmother think that he is his grandfather and he forgives her for all the struggles they had so she can die in peace (Cormier, Page 7). If Mike had told the truth, then his grandmother would have to die unhappy, with that barrier of unforgiveness over her.

Lies can help people from having hurt feelings. For example, in “Truth be told when it’s ok to tell a lie”, if someone asked you if the pants they are wearing are flattering, and one just came out and told their honest opinion that would hurt the person’s feelings. Nobody wants to be called fat or unattractive. Another example stated in “ Truth be told: When it’s ok to tell a lie” was if parents told their kids the truth about Santa Claus and the tooth fairy at a young age, then the kid’s imagination would be ruined. That is how a truth can affect others and their feelings.

On the contrary, someone might say “lying is like telling someone false information, lying is wrong.” A lie can help put people at ease, and as I have said before telling the truth hurts people’s feelings. Another thing one might say is when you tell a lie you will get a bad reputation (Amerikanki). In rebuttal, one might say if you tell one lie in someone else’s favor, then you will not be considered a bad person. On the other hand, if someone tells a lot of lies to help themselves then they are considered a bad person. Lying can be a bad thing but sometimes it is a good thing, and the right thing to do.

In conclusion, lying can serve a good purpose. Lying can serve a good purpose when someone is talking about Santa Claus and young children are around. Then they would have to lie or else that would upset the children. Another way lying can serve a good purpose is when someone is upset and you lie and say everything will be ok, even if you do not know if everything will be alright, that would make the person at ease. Lying is a very powerful thing; it is your choice whether or not you will use it correctly in the right situation.

## Works Cited

*AMERIKANKI*. N.p., 2012. Web. 9 Dec. 2012.

Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK."

*U.S. News Health*. U.S. news & world report, 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

Cormier, Robert. *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., 1996. Print.

*nbcnews.com*. N.p., 2012. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/21110828/ns/today-relationships/t/truth-be-told-when-its-ok-tell-white-lie/>>.

Period 5  
Mrs. O'Gorman  
12/6/12

## Is Lying Justifiable?

Research shows that people who lie about their test scores do better in school. It's socially useful. It can protect feelings. What's not to love about lying?

Sometimes lying can protect people's feelings. What if your sister is getting married? She is wearing a dress that she really likes and you don't really like it. If she says, "Do I look good in this dress?" and if you say, "You look beautiful" that is a lie that protects her feelings without being mean.

Lying makes people feel at peace. For example, in The Mustache by Robert Cormier, Mike's grandma thinks Mike is her husband and she ruined their marriage. She apologizes to him and Mike says that he forgives her. That made his grandma feel at peace with herself. So lying can also make people feel at ease.

Some people say that lying destroys relationships, marriages, friendships and trust. Lies destroy trust in the short story, "Charles" by Shirley Jackson, the child says that there is a bad kid at school who is very disobedient named Charles. Her parents eventually find out that it's their child who was being bad in school, and Charles doesn't exist. I'm not saying that people should lie about things that violate their trust and destroy relationships, I'm saying that lying, at times, can be right and justified.



Lies are different. Lying can come in all shapes and sizes. They can be big, small, medium, or white lies. You can tell all of these lies, but the right ones are the ones that can be justified.

### Works Cited

- BBC*. BBC, 2012. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <[http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying\\_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying_1.shtml)>.
- Cormier, Robert. *The Moustache*. Australia: HarperCollins, 1996. Print.
- Rose, Lacey. "Lying Is Good For You." *Forbes*. Forbes, 2012. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <[http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology\\_cx\\_lr\\_comm05\\_1024lie.html](http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology_cx_lr_comm05_1024lie.html)>.
- U.S. News*. U.S. News & World Report, 2012. Web. 3 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

## Lying Can Be Acceptable

Many people have been lied to, and many people have been hurt by those lies. Especially when the lies were found out. There are those times when the lies are meant to protect someone else, known as white lies. Are those not acceptable either? Not all lies are bad, hurtful or meant to harm.

For instance, when people lie to themselves, it can be beneficial. In Ulrich Boser's article, "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK", he states that research shows that people who lie to themselves are happier than people who tell themselves the truth. According to Boser's article, people who lie to themselves are easier to get along with. In another paragraph of his article, he wrote that researchers found that college students who exaggerated their GPA to others showed improvement in their grades. By lying to themselves, people can benefit from it by believing and accepting their lies, which help them work harder and be happier.

In Robert Cormier's "The Moustache", Mike lied to his grandmother about being his grandmother's husband so his grandmother could come to peace with her troubled past. Mike's white lie allowed his grandmother peace, and lifted the weight from her shoulders. White lies can be acceptable in this context, as it can allow people happier lives. When Mike got home, he also lied to his mother, saying his visit to his grandmother went smoothly, despite it being a bit disturbing (Cormier 7). It saved his mother from stressing about the visit, so she was also allowed peace of mind.

Many people might argue that lying is never acceptable. While lying does hurt people, it can help, as seen in Boser's article with the college students exaggerating their GPA, and white

lies can help people be happier. No one likes being lied to, but if the person finds out the lie was only told to protect someone or make the person lied to feel better, they may forgive the liar. The longer someone lies, the less people trust the liar. While that may be true, if the liar only lies with white lies, people may come to accept that, even if the liar has lied numerous times.

Some lies are acceptable. White lies, for example. Some lies can and are used to protect other people. Not all lies are meant to be hurtful or to put down anyone. Of course, not all lies will be white lies. Some lies will be hurtful. However, as long as a lie is a white lie, it is socially acceptable.

## Works Cited

Cormier, Robert. *The Moustache*. N.p.: HarperCollins, 1996. Print.

*TODAY*. NBC News, 3 Oct. 2007. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/21110828/ns/today-relationships/t/truth-be-told-when-its-ok-tell-white-lie/>>.

*US News Health*. US News and World Report, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

## Why Lying is Good

Many people deny lying but a study shows that someone lies 2 to 3 times every 10 minutes (Us News Health). Here are some reasons why lying is good for everyone.

Lying in certain situations can be helpful like in a short story "The Moustache". A boy with a moustache must lie to his grandmother to give her peace. The lie was he was her husband with a moustache and she forgave him for accusing him of cheating. It let the grandmother be in peace. In situations like that, lying is a good tool to use unless you want to disappoint the person you are talking to. That is just one of my reasons that lying is good for your loved ones.

Another good reason why lying is good is to protect someone. An example in the short story "The Moustache" the main character's mother asked how the visit went and he lied to say it was fine. This was to protect his mom from worrying about him and his grandma. Lying is also good to be nice to someone when you're having a bad day or just don't care at all (Us News Health). Also, lying can be used to help social skills. Studies have shown that people who lie frequently are viewed as friendlier and more amiable than their more truthful counterparts (Us News Health). This shows how lying is good in a social situation like at a meeting or at a party.

Many people say that lying is wrong and when you lie enough it will become a habit or second nature to lie to someone. If only someone only lies in a called-for situation, it will not become a habit and people will not get hurt. Others might say that when people lie, it will encourage others to do the same as you. One way to prevent this from happening is not to lie to everyone, only one person, and don't make the lie

noticeable and in front of a large group people.

In conclusion lying in the right time can be a good thing. Also lying can be used to protect others and also help them. These are just some of the reason that people lie to one and other.

## Works Cited

*BBC- Ethics*. BBC, 2012. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<[http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying\\_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying_1.shtml)>.

Cormier, Robert. *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., 1996. Print.

*Us news Health*. ULRICH BOSER, 18 May 2009. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.



## Lying is Hurtful

Lies. They're all around us. They can rip friendships apart, destroy your soul, and mutilate society. Lying can devastate a family and ruin a person's life. But society accepts lying as something that is completely tolerable. Lying is never okay to do.

When someone lies, a few things happen. For one, the person being lied to is unknowingly being misled. Second, the liar knows that he/she is flat out telling a person something is true. Both people are involved. Most times, people think that in order to lie, something serious must occur. Such as breaking a vase, or cracking your neighbors window, or cheating on your spouse. In fact, that is far from the truth. Most people lie almost 10 times in an hour, according to Ulrich Boser. That's a lot. That's not just "Mom, I saw the bird fly into the window and made it crack when I was playing ball! It wasn't me!"

Lying to someone will always lead to bad things. For example, if a person goes into a grocery store and steals a pack of gum, a few people will get hurt from doing that. The first person is the storeowner. The storeowner, who buys the inventory, will lose money because he will have one pack of gum that is missing that wasn't paid for. The second person who could get hurt is possibly the person who stocked the gum. When boss of the stocker notices that a pack of gum is missing, he could blame the stocker. The stocker did not take the gum, but he got tied into the mess. This particular example may seem minor and unimportant, but what if the pack of gum, turns into an iPod? Is that minor? Not only would the stealing affect the storeowner and worker, but also it could affect the stealer! According to David Ropeik, lying can cause stress that can lead to negative health affects.

Lying can rip relationships apart. Lets say someone is dating a guy or a gal. The guy tells the girl that he is not cheating on her, but in reality, he is. The girl will be deceived into thinking that the guy is giving his loyalty to her. However, the guy is really dating two girls at one time. The guy may be happy with two women, but what will the girl think? Eventually the two girls might talk, or their friends might talk, and the truth would get out. The guy would probably regret lying to his girlfriend. Considering that he got two girls to go out with him at any given time, he probably could pick up a few girls

soon. But in the end, two girls were left broken hearted, and the guy was left a loner. In the article "How lies affect a relationship", it states that lies destroy trust. It says that people who lie to their spouses are more likely to get a divorce.

Most people think that lying is okay to do. For example, one might say that telling a friend that their outfit is pretty, when really its not, is helpful. This is false because after the friend is lied to, that friend is deceived into thinking that their outfit is pretty. Then, later into the day, suppose the friend encounters a person who is not willing to lie about the outfit, and makes fun of the friend. The friend is a bit surprised because the person told them their outfit was pretty. Then, the friend starts to distrust the friend. Eventually after this happening for a while, both friends get ripped apart.

Lying is accepted in society, but society has no idea how harmful lying is. The problem can't be fixed easily. Since lying has been around since people could talk. If the world wants to be happy, stop lying. Lying is what tears people apart.

## Works Cited

Cormier, Robert. "The Moustache." *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. 0-5. Print.

*Empowering Parents*. N.p., n.d. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<<http://www.empoweringparents.com/category-Lying.php#>>.

*Helium*. N.p., n.d. Web. 7 Dec. 2012. <<http://www.helium.com/items/2019891-lying-reasons-for-lying-liars-lying-affects-relationships-lying-is-sin-satan-liar>>.

Ropiek, David. "Want a healthier LONGER life? Stop lying!" *Want a healthier LONGER life? Stop lying!* N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

*U.S. News*. <http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>, n.d. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

## Lying serves a good purpose

Everyone has lied in his or her lifetime. No matter how big or small the lie is.

Lying is thought of being bad and people should not lie. On the other hand, some people think lying serves a good purpose. There are some good things about lying but there are also bad things about lying. There are more good things about lying than bad.

Something good about lying is that it can help out with a relationship. Telling lies can cause partners not to confront each other and cause tension between them (AARP). Lying can also help avoid combustible situations that could escalate and become worse than it already is. Also, no one will be hurt or offended if they were told the truth. This is not the only way lying serves a good purpose sometimes.

Lying can also have a positive effect on the person that is lying and they're peers. Small embellishments can have positive psychological effects (Boser). Also, people who deceive themselves tend to be happier than people who do not (Boser). Studies show, people who lie frequently are viewed as friendlier people and are more amiable than their truthful counterparts (Boser). Even though lying has all these good things about it, it also has some faults.

Lying also has some "defects". If the person that lied got caught their peers or friends might not trust them. Also, dishonesty can easily become a habit (Boser). Partners may also find themselves lying about more significant things (AARP). Lies can also be a gateway to bad relationships with friends and family.

In conclusion, lying can help with a relationship because if there is a situation that

someone does not want to be truthful about they can lie to get out of telling the other person. Lying also has good effects on the person that is lying and their peers because when you deceive yourself you are happier and that would make the people you are around happy because you are in a good mood. Therefore, sometimes telling a lie or deceiving someone serves a good purpose.

## Works Cited

*AARP*. N.p., 2 May 2012. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <<http://www.aarp.org/home-family/sex-intimacy/info-05-2012/pepper-schwartz-truth-about-lying.html>>.

Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK."

*US News Health*. US News and World Report, n.d. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<[http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-](http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok)

[behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok](http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok)>.

Cormier, Robert. *The Moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

# Lying

Lying is not always a bad thing. And who has not told a lie before? What would happen if people always told the truth? For example, if someone asks an opinion on a piece of clothing, people do not respond honestly. It would be rude to say, "That shirt looks horrible on you." We lie to protect people's feelings. People always say the truth hurts, no one ever says anything about lying.

That being said, some people do not believe that lying is the best option. However, in the story called "The Mustache " , a boy lies to his grandmother to put her mind at ease. The grandma has not forgiven herself for mistreating her husband when he was alive. When the boy visits the grandmother, she believes her grandson is her husband because he has a mustache. The boy understands what is happening and pretends to be her husband and forgives her. The grandmother can now rest thanks to a little white lie. In this case, lying did no harm.

Ulrich Boser, a psychologist, has been studying lying for years. In his studies, he has found that if people lie to themselves, they appear to be happier. For example, if someone knows they are overweight, they may tell themselves they are thin or skinny. This makes them feel better and boosts their self esteem. In reality, they are only hurting themselves.

On the other hand, there are people who believe it is never ok to lie. For some people, they need to be brutally honest and say exactly what they think, no matter who gets hurt. For them, it is more important to tell the truth than to spare people's feelings. Although this may appear to be admirable, relationships and feelings can be hurt beyond repair. Their viewpoint is that this is a small price to pay for being honest.

Many arguments have been made about lying and the correct path to follow. The truth is, lying is not a bad thing. There are many factors to take into consideration, including the subject and the depth of the lie. More often than not, people are fine after a lie because their feelings have been spared. It is just a little fib, right?



## Work Cited

U.S News Health. Ulrich Boser, 18 May 2009. Web. 10 Dec. 2012. <<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

Cormier, Robert. The Mustache. Unknown: Angus, 1996. Print.

Psychology Today. Unknown, 2002. Web. 10 Dec. 2012. <<http://www.psychologytoday.com/>>.

## Lies Can Be Okay

"One study found that people tell two to three lies every ten minutes"(Boser). They can be saving someone from getting their feeling hurt, or even hiding them from a surprise that they have for their friend. Sometimes, telling a lie serves a good purpose.

One reason that it is okay to lie is because you do not want to hurt someones feelings. For example, in "The Moustache," Mike's grandmother believes that Mike is her husband who she accused of cheating on her. Her husband, Mike's grandfather, passed away. Mike's grandmother has been feeling guilty because she believes her husband never forgave her. Mike pretended to be his grandfather and lied and said he forgave her. He said he forgave her because he wanted her to be happy. Also, when Mike went home, his mother asked how the visit went. He lied and told her that it was great and his grandmother was doing good. He lied to his mother because he did not want her to worry about his grandmother(Cormier). Also, if someone asks their friend if they like their shirt and they don't, they say they like it so no one's feelings get hurt(Boser).

Lying can make life easier. Some students lie about how high their GPA is when they apply for a job. When they lie about it, it can be setting a goal for them to reach that GPA. In Boser's article, it say that studies show that those students who lied about their GPA had success of reaching it. People also seem to lie in social situations to keep conversations going. They exaggerate stories so people find them more interesting. Studies also show that people who lie tend to be happier overall.

People say that lying is never okay. People say that lying makes people feel betrayed(Boser). If someone trusts their friend enough, they should know that their friend wouldn't lie about anything major. Also, people say that children learn to lie because their parents lie(Boser). One may believe that children learn what they live, so teaching a child to lie is not a good thing. But this problem can be easily prevented by simply trying not to lie around their child.

In conclusion, lying can sometimes be acceptable. You can lie to set goals, or to make yourself and others feel better. As long as it is not about anything too important, lying can serve a good purpose.

## Works Cited

Boser, Ulrich. "We're All Lying Liars: Why People Tell Lies, and Why White Lies Can Be OK."

*US News Health*. U.S. News & World Report, 2012. Web.

<[http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-](http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok)

[behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-](http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok)

[lies-can-be-ok](http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok)>.

Cormier, Robert. *The Moustache*. N.p.: Harpercollins, 1996. Print.

*MSNBC*. NBCNews, n.d. Web. 3 Oct. 2007. <[http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/21110828/ns/today-](http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/21110828/ns/today-relationships/t/truth-be-told-when-its-ok-tell-white-lie/)

[relationships/t/truth-be-told-when-its-ok-tell-white-lie/](http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/21110828/ns/today-relationships/t/truth-be-told-when-its-ok-tell-white-lie/)>.

## The Truth About Lying

Anyone would say that they value honesty, while most of the time, dishonesty is just as valued (Rose). Lying is something that everyone does. It is a habit that has become a part of our lives. Lies are mostly considered to be wrong. Sometimes, though, lying or deceiving someone can serve a good purpose.

In situations of trying to please someone and put them at ease, lying is usually used. The story, "The Moustache" by Robert Cormier, shows that this type of lying can be alright to use. In the story, a man named Mike and his grandmother are talking about forgiving each other. Mike does not realize until later that his grandmother is really talking to him as his grandfather, rather than himself. She asked him to forgive her and Mike does, just to put her at ease (Cormier). Also, lying is used to please people. When a person gets a gift that they do not particularly like, they tell the person who gave it to them that they love the gift (Boser). Lying is used all the time to please someone or put them at ease.

It may seem that lying can hurt oneself as well, but there is scientific evidence that shows otherwise. The evidence shows that people who are depressed, tend to be more honest compared to someone who lies to themselves (Rose). Everyone deceives themselves from time to time and it is used in many situations (Boser). One of those situations would be if you are stressed over a project and know you will not be able to finish it in time. Lying is then used to help the stress go down by saying that everything will work out. People who deceive themselves tend to be happier because of this.

"It's socially useful to tell lies," says psychologist, Robert Feldman (Boser). Many people lie to keep their social life going with others. Nobody wants to hear that they do not look good and when someone asks a friend if they did a good job on something, they want the answer to be yes (Forbes).

Lying is used more than people think. Even though someone may say that they do not like to be lied to, they do not even know the lies that are being told when they ask if their hair looks okay (BBC). Lying is definitely used in our social lives and may be one of the most important things that keeps our social lives together.

Many people say that lying is not acceptable, though. In the article "Lying and Truth Telling", they say that lying can become a habit (BBC). In a way lying has become a habit already in everyone's life. People tell lies without even knowing that they do. An example would be that, if someone is asked how they are, they would most likely respond by saying "good" when really, they feel awful. Also in the article, they explain how it becomes harder to trust one another when we lie. Yet, everyone lies to each other on a regular basis without even knowing. Lying can actually be used to maintain relationships in some situations (Forbes).

Telling lies and deceiving others really is not as bad as some say it is. It is used in so many situations, that we do not even realize it half the time. To tell someone a polite lie rather than the more difficult truth, is what we do to keep one another pleased (Boser). "The bottom line is that a lie is a lie," says Feldman, but the fact is that lying can be used for a good cause (Boser). A little white lie can be told for the most important purpose.

## Works Cited

*BBC*. BBC, 2012. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <[http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying\\_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying_1.shtml)>.

Cormier, Robert. *The Moustache*. Australia: HarperCollins, 1996. Print.

Rose, Lacey. "Lying Is Good for You." *Forbes.com*. Forbes.com, 2012. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

<[http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology\\_cx\\_lr\\_comm05\\_1024lie.html](http://www.forbes.com/2005/10/19/lying-dishonesty-psychology_cx_lr_comm05_1024lie.html)>.

*U.S. News Health*. U.S. News & World Report, 2012. Web. 3 Dec. 2012.

<<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2009/05/18/were-all-lying-liars-why-people-tell-lies-and-why-white-lies-can-be-ok>>.

## Lying is good

Are you a good boy or do you lie? Don't feel bad you lie because your human it is part of who we are. Everyone lies on a daily basis averaging two to three lies every ten minutes(Us News Health). Lying is acceptable for many reasons.

In certain situations lying can help or make people happier. For example in Robert Cormier's, "The Moustache"; Mike lies to his mother. In the end when she asks him how the visit of his grandmother went, he tells her " it was fine" when actually he was pretty freaked out. In this example Mike lied to make his mom feel better.

Society would come to a halt if people were to stop lying (CBSNews). Imagine this a friend comes up to you and asks what your favorite football team is. You don't have one so you quickly respond with a random team to avoid embarrassment. This and other lies would end up hurting the economy, government, and just about everything, would be out of whack.

One might say lying has a habit of piling up. When it is found out, it could end up hurting someone or their feelings. Telling a lie can lead you to another lie. By telling a lie, you waste parts of your brain's energy and destroy a section of your brain (Debate.Org).

In certain situations lying can help, save, and make people happier. The economy, government, and just about everything would be out of whack if lying could not be done. Opposers are wrong, lying is ok but only in certain situations.



## Works Cited

*CBSNews*. N.p., n.d. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <[http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-3445\\_162-2897896.html](http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-3445_162-2897896.html)>.

*Debate.org*. N.p., n.d. Web. 9 Dec. 2012. <<http://www.debate.org/opinions/are-there-special-circumstances-when-lying-is-the-right-thing-to-do>>.

*the moustache*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. *The Moustache*. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.

*Quora*. N.p., n.d. Web. 4 Dec. 2012. <<http://www.quora.com/In-what-situations-is-it-okay-to-lie>>.

*We're All Lying Liars*. N.p., n.d. Web. 4 Dec. 2012.