

Quantitative Literacy

Confidence in a real setting

Pressure affects decisions

- On Saturday, Mike went to Kohl's to buy clothes. He knew from the advertisement that all men's pants were 30% off the regular price, that he had a coupon for an additional 10% off, and he was at the store at 10:00AM which entitled him to an additional 10% off (early bird special). The regular price of the pants was \$46. But when he checked out the register / cashier said his total was \$42.50.
- There were people in the line...the pressure was on

What should Mike do?

- *Just pay up Mike...machines never lie*
- *Get out a paper and pencil or calculator and try to do some computations*
- *Help the cashier see the errors of the machine's way??? :-)*

What Mike did. Was he ethical?

- Here is how I think of it: I know that $30 + 10 + 10$ (my discounts) = 50. 50% of \$46 is \$23. So I'll pay you that plus tax...and I'll be on my way.

QL involves:

- Quantitative thinking and reasoning
- Confidence to apply this to novel situations
- Awareness of the social, political, legal, and ethical involved in making decisions.