

Seventh Grade, Session 25

I Really Don't Know

Scenario

Alex, Ryan, and Trevor are in a group chat and play on the same soccer team. Last night they were talking in the chat about an argument Ryan got into with another guy, Eddie, in the locker room after practice. Ryan doesn't even remember what he said, but Eddie, who is Mexican, told Ryan he was being racist. Ryan didn't agree, and then they got into a fight. Ryan is also angry because he's seen Eddie have conflicts with African American students and use racist terms against them. Ryan was venting about it in the group chat to Trevor and Alex. Ryan is completely dismissive of what Eddie said, but Trevor agrees with Eddie that what Ryan said was racist. Alex keeps saying they should all just forget it. Trevor's dad sees the group chat and tells Trevor he is going to talk to the other boys' parents.

Questions:

1. What does Ryan do if he really doesn't think what he said to Eddie was racist? What is his responsibility?
2. When should Trevor have told his friends that he doesn't agree with Ryan? How?
3. If Ryan believes that Eddie is saying racist comments as well, does Eddie have the right to accuse Ryan of being racist?
4. The next time Ryan sees Eddie, what should Ryan say or do? Explain your ideas.