

# Helping OTHERS

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*Is helping strangers a good idea?*

*Read the story and find out:*

*What happened to this taxi driver when he tried to help?*

A crazy man with three swords took over a city bus with 15 passengers and drove it wildly through the streets. But taxi driver Dal Chong Yang did not stop to think.

Driving his taxi as fast as possible, he caught up with the bus. He then drove in front of the bus for three kilometers, honking his horn and warning people to get out of the way. The bus hit his taxi five times, as the crazy man tried to kill Mr. Yang.

Finally, the bus hit a tree and came to a stop with all of its passengers safe. The crazy man was arrested by police.

Mr. Yang's action helped save many lives, police said. They believe that the crazy man wanted to run down as many people as he could with the bus.

The taxi driver, Mr. Yang, is now a hero. Everybody knows his name and praises his coura-

geous act. "I was afraid, of course," said Mr. Yang. "But I knew I had to do it or a lot of people would be hurt, maybe killed."

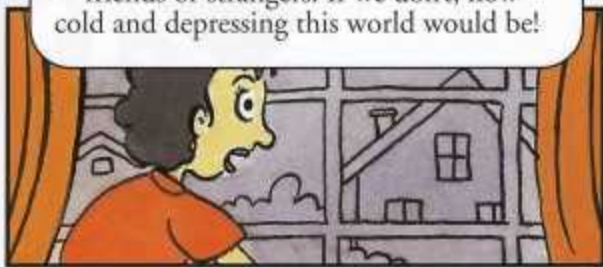
But some believe that what Mr. Yang did was wrong. "Ordinary people should not be trying to stop runaway buses and robberies," says the chief of police. "They really do not know how to do that, and they can get themselves injured or killed."

In fact, Mr. Yang was injured and nearly killed when the bus hit his car. He spent four months in the hospital and two months at home. Now he is back driving his taxi. But he can drive for only four or five hours each day because of the pain from his injuries, not like the 14 hours a day before his good deed.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

Which opinions do you agree with?  
Check as many as you want.

I really believe we should help others—friends or strangers. If we don't, how cold and depressing this world would be!



People should never help strangers for any reason. It's not a good idea.



Ordinary people should not stop crimes. It's too dangerous.



We should help others, but there's a limit to how much we should help.



Why help others? We're all busy and have enough problems ourselves.



Now exchange your ideas with a classmate.

**TURN TO PAGE 88 FOR AN INTERACTION TIP.**

**LOOKING AT THE ISSUE**

Are you willing to help strangers? Read these situations and check your answers.

Case 1: You are walking down the street. A woman suddenly screams, "Help! A thief! Somebody get him!" and you see a man running away with the woman's purse. You decide to:

- run after the thief and try to catch him
- call the police
- scream, "Help! A thief!"
- ignore the whole thing and keep walking
- other: \_\_\_\_\_

Case 2: You are driving your car and see somebody on the roadside with a car problem. You decide to:

- stop and help, but only if it's a woman
- stop and help, but only if it's a woman or an old man
- stop and help, no matter who it is
- drive by without helping
- phone the police
- other: \_\_\_\_\_