

Behaviourism Scenario

The Joke:

Two behaviourists are having sex. Afterwards, the one turns to the other and says, "It was good for you. How was it for me?"

The Exercise

A teacher is having a lot of problems with overall behaviour in her class, consisting of thirty-one fourteen-year-old boys. They are constantly disruptive, often using up valuable time in talking, joking, shouting and wandering around the room.

Which of the following strategies should you she use to resolve the issue? --

- 1) *Increase the use of punishments, including banning key individuals from her class.*
- 2) *Create a 'token economy'. Good behaviour is rewarded with treats, bad behaviour is punished by withdrawal of privileges.*
- 3) *Give up, and let another teacher take over.*
- 4) *Have a quiet talk to the ringleaders. Persuade them to be nice.*
- 5) *Reintroduce corporal punishment.*