

Michael Vick Speaks Out Against Dogfighting

Vick tells students at his old Virginia middle school he “thought it was wrong.”

Posted: December 9, 2009, 5 a.m. EST

Michael Vick is speaking out against dogfighting – to a group of students at his old middle school.

“It’s easy to do the wrong thing. It’s hard to do the right thing,” Vick told 400 sixth- and seventh-graders at Huntington Middle School in Newport News, Va.

Vick, who served almost two years in federal prison for running a dogfighting ring out of his Virginia home, said he wanted the kids to learn from his mistakes.

“I had to leave my family and go to prison and be away from football which I worked so hard to achieve,” Vick said.

When one of the students asked Vick why he kept dogfighting until his arrest, Humane Society spokesman Dale Bartlett, who helped organize the event, said Vick stood up and said “I thought it was wrong, but I thought if I got caught, because I was wealthy, I could get out of it and what I know now is that your actions catch up with you, and if you keep secrets about bad things it will harm your future.”

Vick served 18 months in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., and two months on home confinement in Hampton, Va. He plays for the Philadelphia Eagles.