Example Persuasive Essay

Have you ever read a story that made you want to shout at the main character? In the Brothers Grimm tale, "The Fisherman and His Wife," a fisherman asks a magic fish to grant is greedy wife's wishes. The fisherman always does what his wife says, even when she asks for the power to make the sun and moon rise and set. The fisherman is a fool and should have acted differently in the story.

The fisherman is a fool because he allows his wife to bully him into asking the fish for very extravagant things. For her first two wishes, the wife wants a bigger home each time. She is only satisfied for a week! In these early wishes, the fisherman should have recognized that his wife's greed was growing too fast for their own good. Once the wife gets her bigger home, she decides she wishes to be queen and then wants the power to control the sun and moon. Why on earth would the fisherman think to ask a magic fish for such a power for his wife?

The fisherman is also a fool because he ignores the increasing signs of danger each time he asks the magic fish to grant another ridiculous wish. Each time the fisherman returns to the sea to ask the magic fish to grant a wish, the sea is darker and more dangerous. The fisherman should have recognized the warning in the sea color and movement changes. If he had recognized just how dangerous the sea was becoming, he could have stood up to his wife in time to stop her.

The fisherman should have had the courage to refuse to ask the magic fish to grant more wishes. By ignoring the growing greed of his wife and increasing danger of the sea, the fisherman and his wife got what they deserved in the end. This tale reminds us all to be careful what we wish for.