

Character Card

4

Raj Patel

When Raj Patel was 13 years old, he moved to a new town with his family. He was shopping with his new friends when one of his friends started shoplifting. Raj doesn't agree with shoplifting, but he felt too intimidated to stand up to the group.

The friend was caught by an undercover store detective. All members of the group, including Raj, were taken to the police station, questioned and their DNA was taken. Eighteen months later, Raj has a new circle of friends and is doing very well at school. He knows his DNA is still on the National DNA Database. Raj is worried how this could affect him in the future and whether he will be stigmatised. This makes him feel very anxious.

