

Character Council of Indiana

Our character focus for the month of *AUGUST* is

HONOR VS. DISRESPECT

“Respecting those in leadership because of the higher authorities they represent”

How much honor do you give?

- Would your parents say that you fully and sincerely honor and obey them?
- Do you treat your body with respect?
- Do you respect authorities?
- Do you view your employer as one who aids your growth?
- Do you look for ways to praise others and to deflect praise when you receive it?

Are you struggling with employees who do not respect your authority? Do your own children talk back disrespectfully to you? Do you ever feel like Rodney Dangerfield, who was known for his statement, “I get no respect”? If you have seen one of his movies where he made this statement, it is obvious why he failed to be respected; he failed to respect others. In many situations, respect is received only when it has first been given.

Honor is the much-needed solution to the respect deficiency in our society. Honor is more than respect or esteem for others. It takes into consideration that those who earn our respect are not the only ones who should receive it. This concept means that you give respect to some people simply because of their positions of authority.

Honor is going “above and beyond the call of duty.” It is responding to a sense of duty beyond what immediate authorities have stated. A person who is motivated by honor has a sense of duty for unstated ideals, as well as for stated responsibilities. Honor is understanding the objectives of authorities and taking personal interest in reaching their ultimate goals.

Sam L. Davis, Sergeant, U.S. Army, Battery C is an example of someone who went beyond his immediate authorities’ stated commands; he rescued fellow soldiers during an intense battle in Vietnam after he had been severely injured. He picked up an air mattress and made his way across the deep river to rescue three wounded comrades. Upon reaching the three wounded men, he stood upright and fired into the dense vegetation to prevent the Viet Cong from advancing. While the most seriously wounded soldier was helped across the river, Sgt. Davis protected the two remaining men until he could pull them across the river to the fire support base. Sammy Davis was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his bravery and is one of two living Medal of Honor winners from Indiana.

Education News

Schools across the nation are starting to focus on teaching more than the three Rs (reading, writing, and arithmetic). Respect is now being taught along with responsibility (next month’s quality). The Character Council of Indiana has a PowerPoint presentation on respect, designed for high school students. If this would interest your principal, please have the school administration contact us. The Character Council also provides training for teachers and school administrators in the general aspects of promoting character in the classroom. We also provide this training on-site.

Upcoming events:

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| ☞ Tuesday, August 21 | Character Leadership Breakfast, 7– 8 A.M. |
| ☞ Tuesday, August 27 | Terre Haute, Character Leadership Breakfast, 7– 8 A.M.
(For more information, call Marsha at [812] 235-8101) |
| ☞ Thursday, August 30 | CHARACTER FIRST! Corporate Training, 9 A.M. – 4 P.M. |

Events are held at the Indianapolis Training Center, 2820 North Meridian St. unless otherwise noted. For more information about any of these events, please call our Indianapolis office at (317) 543-4870 or e-mail us at info@charactercouncil.org