

Opinion & Review

Editorial

Evaluation of Respect

By Laurie Koechert

Say "please" and "thank you". Don't talk with your mouth full. Address an adult with "Mr." or "Mrs."

These are things your parents taught you when you were younger to help you learn manners and respect for other people.

Those children who were not taught or did not listen had another opportunity to learn respect for others, if not in elementary school then in middle school.

Everyone should know the meaning of respect and understand what it entails, so I do not understand why college students fail to give it. No where does it say that people must respect each other; but in any community consideration of other people's opinions and of who they are is necessary. Yet a surprising number of students cannot show respect to the faculty and staff let alone their own peers.

I have seen students who seem incapable of conducting themselves civilly on campus, and I can not imagine what it would be like to have a class with those individuals. For example, on numerous occasions I have seen students not only walk in class 20 or 30 minutes late but at the same time disturb the individuals around them for the rest of that period.

What I think students fail to understand is that this is not high school any more. Talking to those around you during class not only distracts the professor but also those individuals who are trying to learn. These students are not here because they have to be, as in high school, but because they choose to come here and to sit in that class, and they should not have to put up with the disruption of the immaturity some people bring with them to that class.

Another issue that must be mentioned is the number of students on campus who bring their small children to class with them. It is difficult for me to imagine what it must be like to be in school and try to come up with money for a day care or baby-sitter at the same time, but expecting any child of six years or younger to be able to sit still and not talk for one hour during a college class is ridiculous.

Bringing a child into the classroom knowing that the child will probably interrupt is disrespectful to students in that class and to the professor. They should not have to deal with or tolerate this type of environment in the classroom.

Another problem, not just on this campus but in society as a whole, is people who do not know how to cope with authority and rules. Rules are rules; they are not meant to be broken. Rules are given for safety purposes and for the benefit of those affected. Many students' reaction to authority always seems to be defensive.

What aggravates me most is students who criticize what other people say or do rather than take a closer look at the disrespect they give to others. The problem is that no one looks within themselves to see if maybe they are wrong.

Too many students here have a problem with respect, and until they look within themselves nothing will change.

Kinesiology: What Is It?

By Christina Papa

Amidst all the changes in degrees and courses, Penn State follows the Big Ten with a new name for Exercise and Sports Science. Kinesiology, which is the study of movement, replaces the former name. Before Exercise and Sports Science, this undergraduate program was called

Physical Education.

But this program deals with more than just the physical aspect.

"Kinesiology implies biomechanics, engineering, human behavior, humanities emphasis, and applied physical fitness emphasis," explained Daniel Doran, kinesiology instructor.

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Commendations—And Farewell

By Sean Worthington

Director, Volunteer Service Center

"The credit belongs to those who are actually in the arena, who strive valiantly; who know the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spend themselves in a worthy cause; who at the best, know the triumph of high achievement: and who, at the worst, if they fail, fail while daring greatly, so that their place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat." - Theodore Roosevelt

I have had the privilege of working with several impressive organizations in my life. I have a wall full of gold and silver medals from track; I was part of a State Championship Drumline in High School; I was a Student Leader in one of the Best Marching Bands in the State; I taught an Atlantic Coast Championship Band.

But of all these fantastic groups, there have been none that I am more proud of than the group I have been working with over the past year and a half in the Volunteer Service Center. The people who work in that office are some of the most impressive people I have ever met.

They blow the "bleeding heart" volunteer stereotype out of the water. These people are strong, intelligent, and committed to excellence. When they target an objective, they work tirelessly to achieve it. And they never give up until they have succeeded. They struggle on through the good times, and the bad (and believe me, there are plenty of both), and at the end of the day they know that they are truly making a positive difference in our negative world.

These people deal with the homeless, the elderly, inner city youth, abused children, handicapped children, children from drug infested families...you name it. They don't offer excuses; they don't offer alibis; they simply offer the only solution they know of: themselves.

The Credit truly does belong to them, for they are out there everyday making a difference. It has been such an honor for me to work with these people. They are more special to me than they realize. To say that I led them is a fallacy. These people lead themselves.

It is with tremendous pride, and a heavy heart that I say... Farewell.

"It is one of the most beautiful compensations of this life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself." -Ralph Waldo Emerson

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EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

Laurie Koechert
lbk104@psu.edu

Greg Jurkowski
gsj101@psu.edu

STAFF

Daniel Abbondi
Tamica Beckham
Lisa Colucci
Mary Doolittle

Margie Henry
JoAnne Johnson
Paco Laborde
Erin Lulevitch

David Metcalf
Maureen McAndrews
Christina Papa
Amy Winnemore

ADVISERS

Barbara Daniel John Terrell

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Torn Between Obligations: How To Spend Time Wisely?

By Lisa Colucci

A surprising topic was brought to the table at the SGA meeting on November 18. Apparently, PSU Delco is getting negative feedback from the Commonwealth Campus Student Government members (CCSG). It seems that in the "lion's eye" our campus community is not as active as the CCSG wants or expects us to be.

This opinion was insulting to all of the active students at this meeting, and throughout the campus.

But they are wrong to criticize. Our first priority is to be students, to go to class and get good grades in preparation for the future. Most students' second priority is working part-time or full time for tuition and other financial needs. Our third priority is campus activities, and so it should be.

Students do not get paid for their service to the campus. However, students as well as their parents go into debt for college education.

Therefore, I believe that the only valid expectation the CCSG should have is for us to be good students; to go to class, and make good use of our parent's and our own hard earned money, and to participate in activities when we can.

Books and grades are not the only things that make up college life. But they do come first, and they are what we count on when we enter the real world. We can't afford too many distractions.

My priorities as a student are well organized so that I will be able to create a good future for myself and my family. I would rather drop off of a committee than drop down to a B.