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MATRIC NUMBER: 19/SCI01/012

WHY YOUTHS DISRESPECT THEIR ELDERS

Disrespect is the denial of approval or recognition of another person. Elders can be our relatives or non relatives and showing respect to them means to be kind, considerate and hearing them out, even if one doesn’t agree with them. From time immemorial, “respect your elders” has been an adage older than the individuals, it urges us to admire people. But for the society to be healthy and functioning, people need to do more than just respect the elders. Through the elders, young ones are inspired by their experiences, learn from their mistakes and they are lifted up.

It is clearly seen that the attitude of younger generations of nowadays are no longer conforming to standards of the past. For instance, prostration and kneeling down are now regarded as an aberration or primitive ideas, helping elderly ones to carry loads or keeping quiet is considered abnormal owing to Western civilisation.

Some children learn disrespect from parents by what kind of example and role model some parents set for the children. Consequently, children learn how to behave by watching their parents. If the parents are respectful, there is tendency for children not to be rude to elders. This is because children observe the way parents talk, behave and treat others. Children live off of parents’ rules and expectations, so, parents should not make children think that treating others disrespectfully is acceptable.

The way people raise their children has much to do with how they were raised and the area that they live. Though people are raised with many diverse values, one common value is respect. Many people have strayed away from the tradition in the way they were raised. It is understood that not all tradition should be up held when time changes, but the foundation of tradition should be maintained. Parents are more engross and authoritative on the lives of their children resulting in less moral stability.   
In today’s age, it is not uncommon for a youth to be contemptuous towards an elder. Disrespect was deeply feared in the past because there would be severe consequences in result of the light-minded behavior towards adults.

Reading online posts from teachers and parents about what they want from each other has reinforced my view of this unique relationship. It is critical for parents and teachers to work together. Teachers often have issues with parents who don’t trust or respect them. The teacher contacts the parent to report some misbehavior and the parent immediately asks for the names of witnesses. The teacher assigns a grade to student work and the parent challenges it. It’s become a way of life in our society to challenge authority figures, but really — your child’s teacher? The teacher is there to help the child grow. What reason could he or she possibly have for making up stories about your kid or judging his work unfairly?

Sure, educators sometimes make mistakes or don’t get all the information. Just like parents, they’re human. It’s appropriate for parents to ask for details, ask how the incident came to the teacher’s attention or who was involved, ask how the work was graded, but it’s possible to do this without challenging the teacher or insinuating that the teacher is lying. The often-heard phrase from parents, “My child wouldn’t lie to me,” has been disproved too many times. Another teacher concern is parents who make excuses for their kids. It doesn’t matter if there was a family party or you let the kids stay up too late. School assignments are expected to be completed with good effort and on time. Parents who make excuses for their children are betraying the parent-teacher relationship and are teaching their kids to avoid responsibility. Sure, once in a great while there’s a family emergency that gets in the way of school obligations. Those should be very rare occasions and should evoke compassion and understanding from the school.

Likewise teachers need to always treat parents with respect. Parents are children’s first and most important teachers. Educators can improve their success with students if, rather than remaining aloof, they forge good relationships with parents. What is going on at home has a big influence on what happens at school. When a parent trusts a teacher with information about family problems like job loss or marital discord, the teacher is better able to understand and work with the student. Schools can increase parent support by helping them to understand the details of the changing curriculum. The Common Core is a hot topic across the country. Sharing grade level expectations for different subject matter with parents is the best way to garner their support in the face of all the media attention, which seems to focus on the negative. Using parent conferences, parent-teacher clubs, newsletters, and special meetings, schools can educate parents. Then parents can reinforce the importance of what the children are learning at home.

Springtime tends to be the most challenging part of the school year. Teachers are tired. Kids get restless. As the days get longer they want to play more. For at least half the school population — along with the birds and the bees — hormones are in overdrive. During my years as an administrator, spring always brought an increase in student behavior problems. Second only to the beginning of the school year, this may be the most important time for parents and teachers to be on the same team. If you haven’t chatted with your kids’ teachers for a while, this is a perfect time to check in.