

# Be Respectful

I can remember my parents telling me to be respectful of my elders. It took me a long time to realize that I should show respect to any person I feel deserves it, and I should find a way to respect those who I do not respect.

**Joseph Kaluza**

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Respect must be earned and must be gained; it is one of the things that adults find most difficult to give to youth when they constantly demand it in return. Respect is something to be earned and can be achieved by being honest, trustworthy, responsible and accountable.

**Melanie Coulas**

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RESPECT means that you try to have an understanding for where people are coming from. It means you listen and try to comprehend not just what someone is telling you, but also, what he/she is not. It means you treat people kindly and "do unto others as you would have them do unto you." To have respect for yourself means that you take care of your body. This means you avoid drugs and excessive drinking. It means you exercise, eat right and get plenty of sleep. It means you set aside time every day for doing the things you like to do, such as reading, drawing, making music, listening to music, running, taking walks, etc. It means you avoid situations that could damage your self-esteem, your health, or your life. Most of all, it means realizing that you are perfect just as you are and that no one can make you do anything you don't want to do.

**Elizabeth Linsley**

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Being respectful can often be a pain, but it is just something one simply has to do! Do to others as you want done to you. It's something you have to think about. If you want to be treated well and as a human being, you have to treat others the same way. Respect is not something you can take and not give. It requires give and take. Respect is also something you EARN. It is not just given to you. If you treat others well, and are a good person, respect will be yours.

**Lilly Field**

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It is only natural that all people wish to gain respect, whether it is from their peers or from adults. By going to school, obtaining decent grades and finding a good, steady job, most people try to be respected by those around them. What most people do not comprehend however, is that they are not the only ones who wish to be respected. In trying to gain respect, many lose sight that those they are trying to be respected by also wish for respect in return. While we are trying to impress and enthrall those around us, we need to stop and consider that we should respect ourselves, those that we know and those we don't know. By being prejudiced, the world will get no where, so it might as well be us to start the trend!!

**Aileen Kilgore**

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Respect is something that is a learned behavior. When we are little, we don't know how to respect our parents. It is learned from our first teachers: our parents. Parents teach children to respect them and all elderly. Why don't parents teach their children about self-respect? To me, self-respect is one of the most important things in a person's life. I don't believe you can actually have respect for anyone else, until you have self-respect. Parents don't think about that when they are teaching their children to respect them, they automatically assume their kid will be the best at everything and have self-respect. So, while we are teenagers, we have to struggle to have self-respect and parents wonder why we aren't respecting them!

**Michelle Andoniello**

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Showing respect is showing honor. It is caring, helping, and loving (among many other things.) To be respectful to others, you must first be respectful of yourself. If you have respect for you, everyone else will; when everyone is respecting you, you will respect them. Respect should be given to everyone regardless of race, religion, or sex; despite even smaller differences like hobbies, friends, or job. You never know how much your respect can mean to a person.

### J-9b: Be Respectful

After the closing night of every show, everyone involved sits in a circle and many people get up and share their experience. This past show, after the director spoke, Alan got up to say something. He shared that, over the past year, our simple "hello", "hey Alan", or just asking for help finding lost items has made hem feel really good. He spoke about how, since he has no children, getting to know us and our getting to know him has made him feel like we are his kids. All of this because a few high-school kids took the time to say hi to Alan, our custodian.

***Stephanie Bullen***