Are You a Respectful Person?  
(Take this self-evaluation and decide for yourself.)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| True | False |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | I treat people the way I want to be treated. |
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| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I treat people with civility, courtesy, and dignity.** |
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| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I am sensitive to other people's feelings.** |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I never insult people or make fun of them.** |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | I never ridicule or embarrass people. |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | I never go along with prejudices or racist attitudes. |
|  |  |  |
| **I think I am/am not a respectful person because:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | |

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it feel like to be respected?
2. What does it feel like to be disrespected?
3. What role does respect play in your relationships with friends and family?
4. What are some respectful behaviors?
5. How important is respect in our lives? Why?
6. Do you consider yourself to be a respectful person? Why or why not? In what ways do you show respect to others?
7. Describe one person you respect in your life. What does this person do to earn your respect?
8. Does a person have to earn respect, or do all people deserve it?
9. How do you show respect to others? Do you show respect to strangers differently than you do to friends?
10. Does it feel different to be disrespected by a stranger than to be disrespected by a friend? How?
11. What are the benefits of people treating each other with respect?
12. When was the last time you disrespected someone? What was the reason? How did you express this disrespect? What effect did your behavior have?
13. When was the last time someone disrespected you? What do you think was their reason for treating you in that way?
14. What are some reasons people show disrespect for others?
15. How do you feel when someone judges you without knowing you or giving you a chance?
16. How do you feel when someone you disagree with calls you a name?
17. Does respect play a role in harmonious race relations? Explain.
18. How do you feel when someone bumps into you in the hall and doesn't apologize? What does saying "I'm sorry" have to do with respect?
19. Agree or disagree: Courtesy and politeness are only for adults. Explain your answer.
20. How do you think respect affects your community, the world?
21. Does everyone deserve respect? Why or why not?
22. What is the difference between respecting a person and respecting our planet?

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

1. Write down the name of someone in your life right now who you respect very much. Name two things that person does that cause you to respect him or her. Do you share either of those traits with that person?
2. Write about a time recently when you felt you didn't treat someone with respect. Describe the situation. Why did it happen? Was it the right thing to do? What were the consequences? How did it make the other person feel? Would you behave differently if you were given another chance? How, and why or why not? What did you learn from the experience?
3. Write about a time when you felt you were treated disrespectfully. What suggestions would you have for the other person to treat you better?
4. Write about something you see in your school, your neighborhood, or the world that shows a lack of respect. What would you do to change it?
5. Write a letter to someone in your life whom you respect. Tell why and how you respect him or her. Send the letter to that person.

Are You a Trustworthy Person?  
(Take this self-evaluation and decide for yourself.)

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| True | False |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | I am honest. I don't lie, cheat, or steal. |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I keep my promises and follow through on my commitments.** |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I try to do what is right, even when it feels difficult.** |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I am a good and dependable friend.** |
|  |  |  |
| **I think I am/am not a trustworthy person because:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  DISCUSSION QUESTIONS   1. How do you know when you can trust someone? 2. What part does trust play in your relationships with your friends and family? How would these relationships be affected if you found out someone was lying to you? 3. Can you imagine starting a friendship with someone you didn't trust? What would that be like? 4. What are the benefits of being a trustworthy person? How do you benefit from the trustworthiness of others? 5. What does trusting somebody mean? 6. What do you look for in someone so you know you can trust him/her? 7. What makes a person trustworthy? 8. What does trust have to do with the quality of someone's character? 9. How do you define a "lie"? 10. Is it ever okay to lie? When would that be? 11. What is a white lie? Is there any difference between a white lie and any other kind of lie? When have you told a white lie? What was the situation? 12. Some people say that simply avoiding the truth isn't really a lie. What do you think? 13. What is the biggest lie you've ever told? Would you do it again? Why or why not? 14. If your friends were here right now, would they say you were trustworthy? What would your parents say? Are you more trustworthy with your friends are with your parents? Do you think your parents should trust you automatically? Why or why not? 15. Have you ever lost the trust of someone you cared about? How did it make you feel? How is your relationship with that person now? 16. Have you ever lied to fit in? Did it help you fit in? If not, what happened? 17. Have you ever been lied to by someone you care about? What did that feel like? 18. What advice would you give to someone who wants to earn back your trust? 19. What qualities in one's character are needed to regain trust? What qualities in one's character are needed to trust someone again after he/she has broken your trust? 20. Can your parents trust you? Why or why not? What role does trust play in your relationship with your parents? Have your parents talked to you about trust? How important is it to you and your parents?   WRITING ASSIGNMENTS   1. Write about the importance of honesty and trust in making our society work. 2. Describe an important relationship in your life right now. What role does trust play in that relationship? How did you earn each other's trust? 3. Write about a time when you saw somebody lie. What was the situation and how did it feel to witness it? What did you do? Would you do the same thing again? 4. Write about a time when you were lied to. How did you feel? What did you need from that person to trust him/her again? 5. Write about a time when you told a lie that got out of hand. What happened and how did you undo the damage?   Are You a Responsible Person? (Take this self-evaluation and decide for yourself.)   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Personal Responsibility: | | | | True | False |  | | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | I do what needs to be done. | |  |  |  | | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I am reliable and dependable.** | |  |  |  | | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I never make excuses or blame others for my actions.** | |  |  |  | | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | I always follow through on my commitments. | | Social Responsibility: | | | | True | False |  | | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | I do my part for the common good. | |  |  |  | | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I volunteer in my school or community.** | |  |  |  | | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I participate in community service.** | |  |  |  | | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | I do what I can to help take care of the environment. |   **I think I am/am not a responsible person because:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  DISCUSSION QUESTIONS   1. What do parents mean when they say you should "take responsibility?" 2. Do you consider yourself to be a responsible person? In what ways? 3. What does "taking responsibility" mean? 4. How does behaving responsibly affect our relationships with our friends? How important is that? 5. How does behaving responsibly affect your relationship with your parents? How important is that? 6. Have you ever caused problems for somebody else by being irresponsible? What happened? Would you do things differently if you had another chance? 7. Has anybody ever caused problems for you by being irresponsible? What happened? What do you wish that person understood about what happened? 8. How does it make you feel when somebody lets you down? 9. How does it make you feel when you have let somebody else down? 10. Do you think there is any connection between being responsible and being trusted? Between being responsible and being respected? 11. Are you responsible? In what ways are you, and in what ways are you not? 12. Successful people get that way by being lucky. Agree, or disagree? Explain. 13. If I try hard and don't succeed it's not my fault. Agree, or disagree? Explain. 14. How might taking responsibility give you power over your life? 15. What responsibilities do you feel you personally have for: 1) yourself, 2) your family, 3) your community?   WRITING ASSIGNMENTS   1. Write about a time you were let down by someone's irresponsible actions. If you could say anything to this person now, what would it be? 2. Can you think of a time you did something really irresponsible? Describe it in detail. Why did it happen? How did you feel about it at the time? Did it affect anybody else? Did it cause any problems for you? How do you feel about it now? What did you learn from it? Or, perhaps you would prefer to write about something you did that was very responsible. 3. Book Report: Write about how the characters in a book behaved in either a responsible or irresponsible way, and how their behavior affected other characters and the story. Do the same with a movie or television program. 4. Imagine waking up one morning and deciding to "reinvent" yourself. What changes would you make? How would you go about it? | | |

Are You a Fair Person?  
(Take this self-evaluation and decide for yourself.)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| True | False |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | I treat people the way I want to be treated. |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I treat people impartially and without prejudice.** |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I consider the feelings of all people who will be affected by my actions.** |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I am open-minded and reasonable.** |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | I play by the rules. |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | I never take advantage of others. |
|  |  |  |
| **I think I am/am not a fair person because:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | |

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is "fairness?"
2. How do you know when something is unfair?
3. Does being fair mean you always treat people equally? Explain your answer.
4. How many people here think the world is unfair and there's nothing you can do about it?
5. In the video one boy said kids were too young to really understand fairness. Do you think it's true that you don't really understand what "fair" is because you are too young?
6. Do you think there is a definition of fairness everyone could agree on? If so, what might that definition be?
7. Should gender or class be disregarded when someone is being punished?
8. Can you think of an example where it might be fair to give someone an extra advantage?
9. What do you think of the statement that whether you think of consequences or not, they're still there?
10. What makes a person fair?
11. What does being fair have to do with one's character?
12. Do you agree that it's necessary to walk in someone's shoes before you decide what is fair?
13. What do you think about the statement that one boy makes, "It's easy for us to define what's fair when it's not about us?"
14. Have you ever been punished in a way you felt was unfair? What was unfair about it?
15. If you had a chance to serve on a teen court, do you think you would be able to make fair decisions? What if the person you were reviewing was a friend of yours?
16. How do you hold onto strict principles of fairness? Is it possible?
17. What are "assumptions?" How do assumptions play a role in fairness?
18. What responsibility do we have when we see someone being treated unfairly? What does our response to unfairness to others have to do with our character?
19. Is there nothing we can do when something is unfair?
20. What is your own personal passion that you can express by making a difference in this world?
21. What are some little things you can do to make life more fair?
22. What do you think Mahatma Gandhi meant when he said, "be the change you want to see?"

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

1. Research and write about how the legal system works in a democracy. How does this system attempt to administer justice or fairness? What elements of the system work to achieve that fairness?
2. What do you think Gandhi meant when he said "Be the change you wish to see?" Do you know someone in your life you feel is doing that? What character traits do they hold that cause you to respect him or her? Do you share any of those traits?
3. Describe something you see in your community that you think is unfair. What do you think should be done about it? What role could you play in making that change?
4. Research the term "Affirmative Action." Do you think it is fair?

Are You a Caring Person?  
(Take this self-evaluation and decide for yourself.)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| True | False |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | I am sensitive to people's feelings. |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I treat people with kindness and generosity.** |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I think about how my actions will affect others.** |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I am never deliberately mean or hurtful.** |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | I try to help people in need. |
|  |  |  |
| **I think I am/am not a respectful person because:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | |

Always remember: we become caring people by doing caring things.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Agree or disagree: Some people say that kids are selfish and self-absorbed and don't care about anything but themselves.
2. How do you know if someone cares about you?
3. How do you feel when people show that they really care about you? How do you feel when you do something really caring for someone else?
4. What makes people care about others?
5. What do you think the world would look like if nobody cared about anybody else?
6. Agree or disagree: It's uncool to be a caring person. Why or why not?
7. Who is someone in your life you think is very caring? How does he or she demonstrate that? How are you similar or different from that person?
8. What motivates you to give to others?
9. What are some things you've done alone or as a group that you feel improved the life of someone else? How did it make you feel?
10. Can you choose to be a caring person, or do you have to be born that way?
11. Do you consider yourself a caring person? In what ways?
12. What does caring have to do with the quality of your character?

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

1. Describe the most caring thing anyone has ever done for you. How did that make you feel? What effect did that have on you?
2. Share a time when you or someone you know made a difference in someone's life by showing that you (or he/she) cared? How did it make you feel?
3. Research someone in history who dedicated his or her life to helping others. Write about when they lived, and give some examples of how they improved the world through their dedication.
4. Watch a movie or a TV program, and then write about how the actions of the characters demonstrated either caring or uncaring. Write a critique of an uncaring character, suggesting how he or she could have been a more caring person.
5. Imagine that you have just inherited $20,000 and you want to spend it all to help other people. What would you do with the money, and why? What effect would it have on the people you would be helping?

Are You a Good Citizen?  
(Take this self-evaluation and decide for yourself.)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| True | False |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | I do my part for the common good. |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I do my share to make my school, my community, and the world a better place.** |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I take responsibility for what goes on around me.** |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | **I participate in community service.** |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | I do what I can to take care of the environment. |
|  |  |  |
| http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/checkbox2.gif | I obey the law. |
|  |  |  |
| **I think I am/am not a good citizen because:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | |

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What makes someone a good citizen?
2. Do you know people in your life who you think are good citizens? What things do they do that make you see them that way?
3. Several young people said they feel it is their responsibility to get involved in the affairs of their community. Do you agree? Why, or why not?
4. What sorts of things have you done that make the world a little bit better?
5. Do you think you are a good citizen? In what ways?

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

1. What does it mean to be a good citizen? In what ways are you a good citizen? Give some examples of things you've done that show good citizenship. What things could you do to be a better citizen?
2. Write about someone in your life who you feel is a good citizen. What qualities does this person have that make you see him or her that way? Which of those qualities do you have?
3. Research a person or group of people that are working for the common good and making the world a better place. Describe what they are doing and how they are making a difference.
4. Come up with a list of some things you might do in the next year that would demonstrate good citizenship. Pick one and describe the steps you would take to carry it out.
5. Think of some kind of volunteer work you might like to do. Describe it and tell why you think you would like it. If you have done volunteer work in the past, describe what it was like and what you got out of it.
6. Write a story about a young person who came up with a way to make the world a better place.

http://www.goodcharacter.com/EStopics.html