



Current Affairs Assembly

KS3 Relationships – Valuing others

Assembly



What, respect?

Aim:

- To show that you may not like someone or what they do but you can respect them.

Introduction

Who do you respect?

Do you know about any of these people and how they earned respect?

Mother Teresa Mother Teresa helped the poor, sick, orphaned, and dying children and people. she opened up orphanages all around the world and did most of her work in Calcutta helping people in the slums.

Martin Luther King Martin Luther King headed up a peaceful civil rights movement in USA so that black people had equal rights with white people.

Mahatma Gandhi Gandhi urged non-violence and civil disobedience as a means to independence from Great Britain, with public acts of defiance that landed him in jail several times.

Nelson Mandela helped form the first black government of South Africa. He supported the plight of black people from South Africa when he was imprisoned, for over 20 years, for being against apartheid which separated black and white people in South Africa.

Steve Jobs In the late 1970s, Jobs – along with Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak, Mike Markkula and others – designed, developed, and marketed one of the first commercially successful lines of personal computers, the Apple II series.

Bill Gates The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has awarded US\$255 million to Rotary International in the global effort to eradicate polio, bringing the total committed by Rotary and the Gates Foundation to \$555 million.

Bob Geldof He co-founded Band Aid in 1984 to raise funds for famine relief in Ethiopia, organised Live Aid in 1985 (also to raise funds for famine relief), Band Aid II in 1989, produced Band Aid 20 in 2004. In 2004, he helped British Prime Minister, Tony Blair, organize the Commission for Africa.

Who would you add to this list of people who have earned respect?

Why do you respect them?

Do other people respect them or are you the only one?

Looking Deeper

Rights and respect

We'd all like to be respected, but respect has to be earned. However, there are some basic respects which govern how we treat people. The Human Rights Act (1998) says, "You have the responsibility to respect other people's rights, and they must respect yours." These rights not only impact matters of life and death, they also affect the rights you have in your everyday life: what you can say and do, your beliefs, your right to a fair trial and other



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similar basic entitlements.

Most rights have limits to ensure that they do not unfairly damage other people's rights. However, certain rights (such as the right not to be tortured) can never be limited by a court or anybody else.

Human rights include:

- the right to life
- freedom from torture and degrading treatment
- freedom from slavery and forced labour
- the right to liberty
- the right to a fair trial
- the right not to be punished for something that wasn't a crime when you did it
- the right to respect for private and family life
- freedom of thought, conscience and religion, and freedom to express your beliefs
- freedom of expression
- freedom of assembly and association
- the right to marry and to start a family
- the right not to be discriminated against in respect of these rights and freedoms
- the right to peaceful enjoyment of your property
- the right to an education
- the right to participate in free elections
- the right not to be subjected to the death penalty

Were the human rights of many Libyans infringed by Colonel Gaddafi in the 42 years he was in charge?

Were **his** human rights infringed when he was killed on Thursday 20th October 2011?

Jim Swire whose daughter Flora died in the Lockerbie bombing in 1988 and subsequently met Colonel Gaddafi once said that he respected Colonel Gaddafi as a person. The Lockerbie bombing was widely attributed to Colonel Gaddafi.

So who, out of the people we started with, should be the most respected?

Mother Teresa, apart from being the only woman she is the only one who is respected and universally liked.

Martin Luther King was despised by the American authorities in the 1950s for his stand against segregation.

Mahatma Ghandi was despised by the British government in the 1930s and 40s for leading a peaceful movement demanding independence from Britain.

Nelson Mandela was despised by the South African government for working to dismantle apartheid there in a peaceful way.

Steve Jobs and Bill Gates were commercial rivals. Steve Jobs being concerned with style of the product and Bill Gates being concerned dominating world computer operating systems. Their rivalry was sometimes bitter and they despised each other.

Bob Geldof is despised by many people for pricking their consciences, including governments about the plight of Africans.

However all of them are respected for what they have achieved.

So it is possible to respect people without liking them.



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Reflection

Without feelings of respect, what is there to distinguish men from beasts?
(Confucius)

Prayer

Father God help me to show respect to all people especially those I do not like.

Thought of the day

He who wants a rose must respect the thorn.
(Persian Proverb)

Keywords

Degrading, responsibility, respect