

Visions of Character

February 2008

Monthly Character e-Bulletin

Building Communities of Character

Deference (vs. Rudeness)

Noah Webster defined deference as: "A yielding in opinion; submission of judgment to the opinion or judgment of another. Hence, regard; respect. We often decline acting in opposition to those for whose wisdom we have a great deference."



Noah Webster

Showing deference is actually connected to humility and restraint, and it is the outward expression of showing esteem or value for someone else. When we respect someone else and encounter opposing views with that person about a topic, we may sometimes have to "swallow pride" and restrain ourselves from voicing our own opinion. This is showing deference for that person.

Deference can be argued that it is giving up "my rights". Yet, truthfully, deference is more of a heart issue, versus



What is Character?

Character is the expression of our decisions that we make on a daily basis; those distinctive qualities that determine our responses to situations, especially when we think no one else is watching

*Character Traits * are established by Character First@Institute and content by Prattville-Autauga Character Coalition, Inc.*

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Visions of Deference "Quote"

To have respect for ourselves guides our morals; and to have a deference for others governs our manners.

- *Lawrence Sterne*

tilted 3 legged stool. This time the child was saved by choosing to obey, but how many times in life will the same child rush into wrong decisions to defend his right "to stand"?

Lessons of humility can be hard, but will teach us the value of restraint when we should show deference for others.

Our Mission

The purpose of Prattville-Autauga Character Coalition is to strengthen our communities by promoting excellence in character for each citizen.