

Civility Inspirations

Every action done in company ought to be done with some sign of respect to those that are present.

George Washington

Civility does not mean mere outward gentleness of speech but an inborn gentleness and desire to do the opponent good.

Gandhi

Distrust and resentment corrode the ties of civility; suspicion and hostility tempt men to act in ways they would otherwise avoid.

John Rawls

CIVILITY IS NOT A SIGN OF WEAKNESS. NEVER NEGOTIATE OUT OF FEAR. BUT NEVER FEAR TO NEGOTIATE.

John F. Kennedy

It is possible to disagree without being disagreeable.

Sandra day O'Connor

Justice
Democracy
Tolerance Respect
Citizenship Courtesy
Fairness Politics
Civility
Ethics

Civility is:

Considerateness

Courtesy

Decency

Modesty

Politeness

Respect

Tact

***And Commitment to the
Common Good***

The Ethics Center at Fresno State

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The Civility Project



The Virtues of Civility

Civility is self-restraint in a context of liberty. In its fundamental moral aspect, it is based upon respect for the other.

Andrew Fiala, *"The Virtue of Civility"*

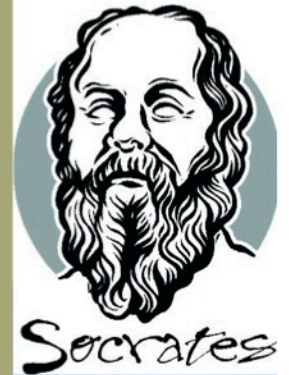
Teach them better, if you can. If not, remember that kindness, grace, and goodwill are given for moments such as these.

Marcus Aurelius

*Know
Thyself*

*Nothing in
Excess*

*It is hard to
be good*



1. **Agreeableness:** go along when possible with what others propose
2. **Big-Heartedness:** welcome others with hospitality and praise
3. **Compassion:** put yourself in the place of the other
4. **Curiosity:** express an interest in what others say, think, and believe
5. **Deference:** do not insist upon yourself but defer to others when appropriate
6. **Dignity:** behave with self-respect; avoid belittling oneself and others
7. **Eloquence:** find the right word and avoid degrading language
8. **Forgiveness:** realize that everyone fails (including yourself)
9. **Gratitude:** express thanks for a benefit received
10. **Honesty:** say what is true and avoid exaggeration
11. **Integrity:** behave the same way in public and private; aim for consistency
12. **Justice:** give to each person what is owed, earned, and merited
13. **Kindness:** be kind and generous and considerate of others
14. **Liberality:** be generous and open-minded
15. **Mindfulness:** attend to what everyone says (including yourself)
16. **Modesty:** minimize self-assertion and admit your imperfections
17. **Patience:** allow others to speak and think before your speak
18. **Reserve:** do not be intrusive or meddlesome
19. **Respect:** give respect to others and expect it in return
20. **Sincerity:** mean what you say and say what you mean; avoid hypocrisy and gossip
21. **Tact:** minimize costs embarrassment for others
22. **Temperateness:** do not express anger, lust, ambition, or greed
23. **Vulnerability:** admit your needs, lacks, fears, and failures
24. **Wonder:** admit ignorance, doubt, confusion, and awe
25. **Yielding:** allow others to shine—do not be unyielding
26. **Zest:** be vigorous and life-affirming without zealotry