

Education

SCHOOL TALK

By Dr. Marshall C. Darnell

INDIVIDUAL SELF-ESTEEM

How we view ourselves, the value that we place on our individuality, the concepts that we hold regarding the strengths and weaknesses that we possess are the building blocks of what is labeled self-esteem. Not very important stuff to most of us because we consider such topics and feelings as ego inflating or boastfulness. These may be the very elements that prevent humans from being humble and compassionate, not so. As we learn about human behaviors and the belief patterns that are developed within our youth, self-esteem, self-worth, self-value becomes an ever increasingly important aspect for adults to consider when they set about to train and educate the nation's youth.

There is the story of the massive elephant tied to a small stake with a piece of rope that could be easily broken by man. Yet, the elephant makes no effort to walk away. The reason, as a very young animal there was a massive chain placed around his leg which was secured to a steel rod. Every effort by the elephant at this young age to escape was thwarted. Over the years he grew to believe that it was impossible to rid himself of the bond. Now, he never tries no matter how small the rope or stake that holds him to specific location. He has massive power, strength that could easily move tons of weight, but he believes he is powerless over any object tied around his leg due to previous experiences.

While the story may have some humor for those of us who know the truth, how often we as parents and educators bind our youth with such chains early in life and when the individual is older those early experiences will not allow them to escape their bonds. Are such chains deliberately placed on our youth? No, in most instances

we use our own experiences as a base for such actions; in some rare circumstances we simply reinforce what others have reported to the youth. Irrespective of the rationale or the method which has been employed, the chain exists, and in later life it need only be a small rope to hold each person.

New programs are emerging throughout the school system which have targeted the development of a positive self esteem concept within our students. Programs in sex equity have helped bridge the information gap that has long prevailed. Young women are being offered the opportunity to set career and personal goals which include occupations that have been male dominated for decades. Young men are challenged to view technology and its new systems in a different light. Recently, Dr. William R. Daggett suggested that the future for clothing design and production would be changed. Because of laser refinement, such work, once the domain of women, would be changed and both men and women would share in the work force.

However, technology is only a small segment of this story. As we look at providing information to the citizens of the twenty-first century, we must be mindful of our responsibilities as parents and teachers to never chain our youth. Every person needs to become acquainted with those personal strengths that can insure a secure future and a self-actualized life.

We have learned much about behaviors and the most appropriate ways to teach specific factual material; we have just now begun to practice the art of teaching people about themselves. Self-esteem or the value we place on our own worth is a noble beginning.

EXCHANGE CLUB DEDICATES FREEDOM SHRINE TO SCHOOL DISTRICT

In celebration of the Bicentennial of the Constitution, the Las Vegas Exchange Club will dedicate a Freedom Shrine to the Clark County School District Thursday, September 17, 3:00 p.m. in the Education Center Board Room, 2832 East Flamingo Road.

The Freedom Shrine is a unique display of 28 historical American documents, including the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, which the Exchange Clubs of America have installed all across the United States.

The Honorable Phillip Pro, U.S. District Court Judge, will dedicate the Freedom Shrine. The program will revolve around a military theme with participation from Nellis Air Force Base and honor guards representing JROTC branches at Chaparral, Western and Basic High Schools.

Retired military school district staff will wear full dress uniforms as part of the armed services tribute.

Robert Griess, President Elect of the Exchange Club of Las Vegas said he and his fellow "exchangites" are pleased to have an opportunity to focus community attention on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution in such a unique and appropriate way. Griess is a marketing administrator for the Las Vegas IBM Corporation operations office. IBM paid for the shrine through its Fund for Community Service.

"The IBM Fund for Community Service is part of IBM's dedication to returning resources to communities in which it does business," said Griess. Last year IBM gave \$188 million in cash, equipment and services of loaned employees to educational, cultural and community organizations.

The Bicentennial is being celebrated nationwide during 1987 through 1991. The Freedom Shrine is one of several programs in which Exchange Clubs are involved to encourage citizenship and patriotism among Americans.

CCCC Training Institute To Present Substance Abuse Workshop

The Training Institute at Clark County Community College will present a Substance Abuse Workshop for Supervisors on Saturday, September 26, from 8:00 a.m. until noon in Room 1100 on the Cheyenne Campus of the College.

This workshop will enable participants to: identify symptoms of a troubled employee; learn how and when to intervene when there is denial; know the personnel and legal issues; determine the needed documentation; decide whether or not to terminate; and connect with

resources for setting up an Employee Assistance Program.

Howie Bieber of HCA Montevista Centre, Doug Spring of Clark County Employee Development and Training, and Sharyn Peal of the State of Nevada Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Abuse will conduct the workshop.

Pre-registration is advised. Registration deadline is September 18.

For more information, call The Training Institute, Clark County Community College at 643-6060, ext. 442.

Saudi Arabian Consul General to Speak at CCCC

The Honorable Abdul Hameed Al-Garee, Saudi Arabian Consul General of the Los Angeles Consulate, will speak on International Trade between the United States and Saudi Arabia, on Monday, September 28, at 12:30 P.M. in the Little Theatre at Clark County Community College. Slides will be shown in conjunction with the speech.

Since September 1982, when Al-Garee was assigned to establish the Saudi Arabian Consulate in Los Angeles, he has served as his nation's Consul General. As an official member of the Saudi Arabian delegation, he has attended numerous Arab summit conferences.

Al-Garee was born in the Holy City of Makkah where he completed his early edu-

cation. He graduated from the University of Alexandria, Egypt, with a B.A. degree in Economics and Political Science. After working in the private sector in Saudi Arabia for a number of years, he joined the foreign service as an attache' in the protocol department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He served as a Vice Consul of the Saudi Consulate in New York City and later was appointed Consul in charge of the consulate for six years. He was Charge' D'Affaires of the Saudi Arabian Embassy at Accra, Ghana, for over five years.

For information concerning this event, call the Clark County Community College's Business Division, 643-6060, ext. 278.



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