

## IMPUDENT ANONYMOUS

*by:*

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If there's one notable aspect of humanity that separates us from the rest of the animal kingdom, it is our ability to respect others' emotions and to respond to them accordingly. Respect entails a great amount of understanding and empathy towards others' beliefs as it is easier to feel exasperated and let it out than to patiently react to everything that doesn't conform with one's ideals.

In an era where social media thrives and are made available by everyone, respect is something that seems to be fading away every minute. People are easily enraged by posts that they don't agree with and thus respond harshly. Even personal choices should adapt to public opinion or being canceled would be another option.

Freedom of expression eventually turned to criticism of others' ideals, and it could have been acceptable if those denunciations were conveyed with respect. Opposing beliefs are typical in a society where people think differently. Debate is inevitable but this can be done in a way that won't harm anyone in any manner. However, attacking others on social media just because their opinions differ from yours is a different story. Utilizing social media to cancel someone is already out of character, especially for people who claim that they are educated.

What our civilization needs is reform and rehabilitation in terms of fostering respect. If there's "Alcoholic Anonymous" for people with drinking problems, there should also be "Impudent Anonymous" for people who need constant reminders that we are all unique and have different philosophies. Respect is the key to understanding others.

Keeping an open mind is essential to identify the common ground so people can compromise. Listening and keeping our emotions in check is also crucial to fully understanding others.

We should all be enlightened with the truth that working together to make the world we live in a better place is better than attacking each other just to show off our superiority. Instead of commenting on someone's post and directly mentioning how wrong that person's way of thinking is, it would be better to write our own commentary on an issue that matters to us.

As much as it is not wrong to express one's opinion, it is not also a mistake to be kind. By being kind and respectful, the different battles we fought would've been easier to overcome.

#### *References:*

Khan, S.A. (2020, September 18). Examples of showing respect to others & why it's important. Legacy Business Cultures. <https://legacycultures.com/examples-of-showing-respect-to-others-and-its-importance-in-life/>