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Coffee with Molly

Changing our World...

I was reminded again this week that we live in a very complicated and trying world. Several times over the last few days, I have witnessed extremely bad behavior and a complete lack of courtesy or self-awareness. If I see this, it heightens my awareness of what our staff and members face daily in dealing with the public.

Years ago, a movie had a line in it that said, "I am mad as hell, and I am not taking it anymore." It was shouted by a disgruntled journalist and it resonated and echoed with many people. For a few years, it became a punch line or a cliché that we recognized and understood.

I am not mad, I am disappointed. It seems crazy to me that thinking, smart people can lose their cool and their common sense so quickly. What happened to patience, compassion, and understanding? When did minor inconveniences become major disasters? When did we stop practicing the golden rule?

If you are reading this, I know that you understand. Daily, you deal with parents, students, employees, and district colleagues in a variety of situations.

Some handling complaints or concerns, others dealing with accountability issues and sometimes just being an ear for a frustrated person. Your challenge is to maintain your professionalism and cool even when faced with chaos!

What do we do about this? Can we change this crazy culture and attitude? Do we just have to take it? All valid questions and I admit, I do not have all the answers. What I do know is this, the only person I can control, influence and speak for is myself. I am 100% responsible for how I act, what I say and my work.

The only way I can impact this crazy culture is to be the type of person, leader, and colleague that I want to be. That means for me, I practice three things:





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1. I refuse to engage in bad behavior. I will do my best to defuse and mitigate situations, but I will not get into altercations, screaming fits, or blame games. I choose to be part of the solutions and not add to the problems.
2. I practice extreme courtesy. Kindness and reasonable behavior should not be exceptions, they should be the rules. Even when stressed, disappointed and even angry- I watch how I treat other people. My body language, my words and my actions are my calling cards in life.
3. I will not accept this is the way it has to be. I will speak out, stand up for issues and people who need my support, and I will promote a world where we are kind, professional, and inclusive. I will endeavor to forgive, forget when appropriate and work to bring out the best in those I encounter.

So, for my Coffee with Molly friends, how about you? Need a break from the toxic world? Tired of crazy? I'm with you! Let's ban together and change our world...one day at a time, one opportunity at a time and one person at a time!

