

Handout #5, “Excerpts From Eisenhower’s Farewell Address”

America’s leadership and prestige depend, not merely upon our unmatched material progress, Riches and military strength, but on how we use our power in the interests of world peace and human betterment...

Down the long lane of the history yet to be written America knows that this world of ours, ever growing smaller, must avoid becoming a community of dreadful fear and hate, and be, instead, a proud confederation of mutual trust and respect.

Such a confederation must be one of equals. The weakest must come to the conference table with the same confidence as do we, protected as we are by our moral, economic, and military strength. That table, though scarred by many past frustrations, cannot be abandoned for the certain agony of the battlefield.

Disarmament, with mutual honor and confidence, is a continuing imperative. Together we must learn how to compose differences, not with arms, but with intellect and decent purpose. Because this need is so sharp and apparent, I confess that I lay down my official responsibilities in this field with a definite sense of disappointment. As one who has witnessed the horror and the lingering sadness of war-as one who knows that another war could utterly destroy this civilization which has been so slowly and painfully built over thousands of years-I wish I could say tonight that a lasting peace is in sight.

Happily, I can say that war has been avoided. Steady progress toward our ultimate goal has been made. But, so much remains to be done. As a private citizen, I shall never cease to do what little I can to help the world advance along that road.

-Dwight D. Eisenhower, “Farewell Address,” January 17, 1961

Resolving Conflicts

Conflicts will get worse if

- Participants let their anger, frustration, or other emotions get out of hand;
- Participants feel frightened or threatened;
- More people get involved, choosing sides;
- Participants don’t use conflict resolution skills.

Conflicts will ease up if

- Attention is focused not on the participants, but on defining and solving the problem;
- Participants can resolve or control their anger, frustration, fear, or other emotions;
- Participants are skilled in settling conflicts or have someone to help them.

(Morton Deutsch, *the Resolution of Conflict*, (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1973)

Handout #2 – Acting As a Mediator

Step 1: Introduction and Ground Rules

1. “Hello. My name is ...” (*shake hands*)
2. “Would you like to use mediation to solve your problem?”
3. “Everything that you say will be kept confidential...”
 - We are not here to judge...
 - We will not decide the solution for you...
 - Each of you will get a chance to tell your story without interruption.
 - You will create the solution yourselves.
 - Together, you will create an agreement that you can both accept.
4. There are a few ground rules that you need to agree to:
 - Not to interrupt
 - No name calling or putdowns
 - Work hard to solve the problem
 - Be honest

Step 2: Define the Problem

Storytelling and uninterrupted listening

5. “Please tell us what happened...(*ask one person*)
6. *Let them tell their story.*
7. “So...(*restate and summarize the story*)
8. “How did that make you feel?” (*restate*)

9. “Please tell us what happened...(*ask the other person*)
10. *Let them tell their story.*
11. “So...(*restate and summarize the story*)
12. “How did that make you feel?” (*restate*)

Step 3: Find Solutions

Creating options

13. “The issues to be solved are...Are there any other issues?”
14. “Can you think of a solution for the issue of ...?” (*ask one person*)
15. “What do you think of this solution?” (*ask the other person*)

*****OR*****

16. “Let’s brainstorm for 2 minutes. Can you think of some different ways this can be solved?”
17. *List these ideas.*
18. “Which solutions could you agree with?”

Step 4: Final Agreement

Mutual satisfaction

19. Restate final solution.
20. 4WH (*who, what, when, where, how*)
21. “What could you do to keep the problem from happening again?”
(*ask each person*)
22. “Do you think the problem has been solved?”
23. “Please tell your friends that you have solved the problem. This will prevent rumors from spreading about you and this problem.”
24. “Congratulations. You have worked hard to solve this problem.”
25. *Everyone shake hands.*
26. *Have people sign a final agreement.*

(Written by Fran Schmidt, Alice Friedmand, and Jean Marvel. *The Grace Contrino Abrams Peace Education Foundation, 1992. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted by Permission.*)