



"Deference" vs. Rudeness

"Making my own schedule and priorities secondary to the wishes of those I serve."

I will:

- " notice those around me.
- " respect the feelings of others.
- " not use offensive language.
- " not play loud music in public.
- " be careful how I dress.

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What is Deference?

A person who has deference respects the wishes and tastes of others. He does not put his own desires first, but puts others first.

He does not give up doing what is right or put others' desires first when they want to do wrong things, however. But he learns about the tastes of others and tries to honor them.

Deference in Nature



Just the mention of the word "wolf" makes us feel afraid. We think of wolves as very brave and ferocious fighters. But to survive, wolves have to run in packs or groups. By itself, a wolf is slow and could kill only small animals; but working in cooperation with other wolves in a pack, wolves can bring down and kill animals much larger than themselves. A pack of 10 wolves can kill a deer, elk, or even a moose. How does a pack of wolves work together to kill such a large animal? Because wolves could do much harm to each other with their strength and sharp teeth, they have to learn to keep peace with the others in the pack.

They show deference to each other; if they didn't, they would fight and destroy each other. Each wolf in the pack has a rank, with a leader called an "alpha male." Each wolf has a rank determined by his age, strength, health, and craftiness. Wolves will growl and show their teeth when they first meet, but those with a lower rank will allow the higher ranking wolf to pass by safely.

Wolves have a communication system which can either start a fight or prevent one. When a wolf is threatened or angry, the hair stands up on its back, its ears go forward and its tail goes up. Wolves can choose not to fight and will communicate their peaceful intentions by smoothing the hair on their backs, lowering their tails, and relaxing their ears into an upright position. A wolf will signal fear by tucking its tail between its legs; he will often be chased by an angry wolf. A wolf that desires peace will show deference by stepping to the side to let another wolf pass by.

Because the wolves in a pack work together, they can wear out their prey by taking turns chasing it while the others rest. They don't compete or fight against each other, but save their strength to attack their prey instead.

A wolf new to a territory will howl to test to see if another wolf claims that area. If some wolves howl back, the new wolf will show deference and go on its way to another place.

Deference helps wolves work together as a pack and keeps them strong and well-fed.

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Memory Work

"I will notice those around me that I meet along my way; I will try my best to not offend in what I do or say.

I will honor others' feelings, and to show I really care, I'll be thoughtful with my music and the clothes I choose to wear.

To live a life of character, commitment is the key. When things get tough, I'll prove to you that you can count on me!"

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"Pin the Tail" on the Wolf

- Angry wolf
- Happy wolf
- Scared wolf
- Deferring wolf



What Does Deference Look Like?

- " Letting others go first in line.
- " Giving the last piece of cake to another.
- " Sharing a toy I wanted to play with.
- " Turning my music down because the baby is sleeping.
- " Letting a friend choose which music to listen to.
- " Giving up my time to help my mother or grandmother.



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