

Rotary Club of Fairfield



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Special Drummer

--The Backwards Four-Way Test

Fairfield Rotary July 15, 2024

Are we caring enough?

Over this historic weekend, I was thinking what it was that my Rotary Club - a business group - could do to help calm our country.

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Over the last few months, many of us have become consumed with hate, anger and fear. Most, if not all of it, has been generated by our opinions clashing with others. Our differing - sometimes outraged - viewpoints enter our brain, infect our heart and damage our soul in a bad way.

In the time of elections, we might ask ourselves how much of this hate is appropriate given that there will be at least 150,000,000 votes cast across our nation and each of us can cast a vote; wait for it; only one vote. Right now, today, how might we deal with this hate and fear

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One of the key foundational doctrines the Rotarians have is called the Four Way Test. Perhaps we might use that to benefit our communities and country.

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Let's look at the 4 way test, but let's look at it backwards.

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First, will what we do be of a benefit to all concerned?

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Second, will we build good will and better friendships among family, friends. and neighbors?

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Third, will our plan be fair to all concerned?

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Looking at the big picture, we must have a "yes" to these 3 goals.

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Last of all, is what we are going to do based on truth? This being difficult to gauge, let's ask for a 60% effort. Maybe not perfect, but it is two thirds of t-r-u-t-h. That is the last 3 letters.

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Now we have U-T-H which can stand for "tell Her" or "tell Him."

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So, what do you tell people? This suggested script is a starting

Birthdays

Margaret Hodgkins
August 2nd
Stephanie J. Coakley
August 11th

Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries
Found

Years of Service

Douglas Williams
11-01-1993
31 Years
Thomas J. Walsh Jr.
11-01-1999
25 Years
Robert B. Price
11-01-1999
25 Years
Deborah Clancy
11-07-2005
19 Years
Chad Stewart
11-07-2005
19 Years
Robert D. Russo
11-10-2014
10 Years
Noor Deeb
11-16-2021
3 Years
Wadie Boutros
10-31-2022
2 Years

So, what do you tell people? This suggested script is a starting point based on humility and a desire to change. It's addressed to one we care about and with whom we differ.

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****** I have a problem.**

I've lost control of my emotions over all of this political stuff. I have lost friends, damaged family relationships and I am becoming depressed.

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Depression doesn't even make any sense. A few years ago I was fine. Some friends were in one political party, some were in another, and some didn't care about politics at all. I didn't care who was what and neither did they.

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It is not like that anymore. I measure everybody by politics. If I don't stop doing this, I won't be able to attend the family get together on Thanksgiving. I'll have to refrain from speaking to neighbors on my neighborhood daily walk.

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Is there a way to get my act together?

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How are you handling the political news and views going on in our country?

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That's the script. Is it totally the truth about our lives? Maybe more for some than for others. Won't talking from the heart, looking at the situation from the position of the Four Way Test be an opportunity to care about others? Can't sharing our communication help us all?

[Read More](#)

Drummer Notes 11.29.2021

Drummer Notes 1.3.22

Drummer Notes 1.10.2022

CHUCKLE 1

When an employment application asks who is to be notified in case of emergency, I always write, "A very good doctor".