

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

01/10/2017

I think probably most all of us watch the news. I certainly do. For me, being informed of what is going on in our world is important. I admit though, most of the time the news now isn't pleasant. There seems to be so much anger and hatred in our world and America appears to be more divided now than since the mid and late 1960's and early 1970's.

Some people--some of our politicians, some of the press and some of the activist groups, seem to go out of their ways to point out our differences rather than our likenesses. Pitting black against white, rich against poor, Republican against Democrat, etc., is a common thread in many of the news stories. People trying, and unfortunately, many times achieving their goal of hurting or killing others because they feel victimized by the system--or life itself.

It is my humble opinion that the primary cause for the anger, hatred and division is because those people do not love themselves. Many prefer to play the role of victim rather than striving to overcome some of the obstacles they may be facing--or may have been born into. The more the victim mentality grabs hold, the less love and respect they have for themselves or others. Life, for them, becomes a series of striking back or striking out at others.

Fortunately, those "making the news" are, by far, not the majority of the human race! I believe that most people are relatively happy with their lives and would never consider hurting others. Most of us were born into and grew up in family situations that were kind and loving. Those attributes and examples of how to treat ourselves and others were imprinted on us at fairly early ages.

The truth is living, loving, peaceful, joyous and prosperous lives "begins at home"--that is with ourselves. Although relationships with others can bring us happiness it's up to us to love ourselves and love our lives for true, peaceful happiness. Only when we love and respect ourselves can we really love and respect our brothers and sisters on this planet!

As I have written before, probably none of us individually are going to change the world. We can, however, make a difference! We can make a difference in our own lives and the lives of all those around us by loving and respecting ourselves and treating others the way we want to be treated. Today is the day to make a difference!

All my best--

Chip

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "In a gentle way you can shake the world."  
Mahatma Gandhi