

## A Sermon on Respect

Sermon by Rev. Minister Angela Smith of COPE for June 21st, 2020 (and beyond)

Oxford Language via Google defines "respect" as "due regard for the feelings, wishes, rights, or traditions of others." and similar to the word "consideration". The word "consideration" is defined by the same as "careful thought, typically over a period of time." and "a fact or a motive taken into account in deciding or judging something." In other words hypocrisy is disrespectful and hypocrites are often responded to in kind leading to unrest and arguable devolution. Here's the thing, "devolution" has arguably contrary meanings depending on perspective. Oxford Language via Google defines "devolution" as "the transfer or delegation of power to a lower level, especially by central government to local or regional administration.", "descent or degeneration to a lower or worse state.", and "the legal transfer of property from one owner to another." So the first and last definitions as shown describe the United States government and economic system. I find that somewhat offensive since devolution is often used in a derogatory way and therefore disrespectful. And, the offense is a result of the middle definition as shown above.

And, that's why I love the United States of America and defend the US Constitution. We have the right to local and state authority because We Are The People and We Are The Government. The more ignorant we are regarding how to address problems facing civilization or even just invent something cool, the less effective we are at both solving problems and reasonably contributing to society in a manner that would result in upward mobility. If anyone at any time has actively prevented you from learning or established a prejudice for you against education which has interfered with your opportunities for advanced placement, they were an oppressor and obstacle. But, once removed it is up to you to overcome your fear and ignorance for the sake of upward mobility unless you wish to rely solely on charity knowing resources are limited and demand is high. Or, you can get an entry level job to start building your resume and gaining marketable skills while saving up for an education once you know what career you wish to pursue.  
#BeTheGovernment

I recommend, while respecting your total right to think otherwise and as you like, that you: "Think of anyone who at any time tried to prevent you from getting an education as a superstitious self-important moron who should never have been hired as nor put in the position of an educator in the first place. And, then think it was awfully nice of the school to give a developmentally disabled narcissist a job anyway and so many protections and second chances too." You want better teachers? Become one and do your job well. And, after you've meditated on how generous and forgiving the school is to any teachers who were Machiavellian, authoritarian, or otherwise unfit for their position, recognize they don't actually run anything and have one of the least appreciated and worst compensated jobs in the country. Perhaps think of the bad ones as having a "Napoleon Complex" or "Big Fish Small Pond Disorder". The pond is big as is the world and Napoleon couldn't do it. No one can handle winter in Russia. So, world domination isn't happening. And, you should help build the complaint file on any unqualified educators who abuse their power so enough complaints may someday be filed that they

are fired. But, in public school I had mostly cool or good teachers. There was one that was really bad and that was Mrs. Sprague. She was extremely abusive. We complained about her and she was suspended. She shook me after she refused to let me go to the restroom during lunchtime and I wet myself at my desk. She was punishing the whole class and made us eat lunch in the classroom. She punished me for not being able to hold it. Here's why I'm thankful for that (I believe she was later fired or quit) and it's a sick reason. My nearly 3 month stay at Provo Canyon School years later had a punishment unit and they made you hold it and then punished for wetting yourself. I held it like a champ and didn't wet myself once even after being denied access for over 10 hours after I first held my hand up while doing standing investment points (1 hour of standing staring at a wall for every investment point with hundreds of them for things including not making my bed in a manner where when the top blanket is thrown back by staff the bottom sheet isn't disturbed or wrinkled). So, I don't like Mrs. Sprague and what she did was wrong which is why she was disciplined and later resigned I believe. And, Provo Canyon School remains in the COPE Conversion Program/ on the False Prophet Watch-List. I passed the Washington Educator Skills Test with a 90.44% or 814 out of a possible 900 total score. I respect myself, Mr. Jim Doell, Mr. Matthews, Mr. Shumake, Ms. Galloway, and many more of the teachers in my life whether professionally or personally. I do not respect Mrs. Sprague nor anyone using that model. But, I respect everyone enough to communicate honestly.

Respect yourself and avoid hypocrisy by showing the same respect to others you wish others to show to you. How honest are you? Well, if you are very dishonest and expect everyone else to be as dishonest with you, then you'll be disappointed if you interact with me and should avoid me. I believe the virtuous arguable "legal" limit on respect is the line between honesty and dishonesty. So, where dishonest for a vicious purpose that's always evil, sinful, and often unlawful. And, be very cautious when rationalizing and really examine to be fair and avoid hypocrisy. But, when honest even with a vicious purpose or for the sake of someone being vicious, I recognize that as showing respect rather than insulting one's intelligence exacerbating the injuries caused by another's vice.

So, understand with sporting events where a referee makes a call unpopular with fellow fans of your team that when you riot in response it freaks people out, especially if the referee's call is found to have been erroneous upon say NFL review and the referee is downgraded or otherwise penalized. So, say you are at a football game and the referee makes a bad call. If you riot then you are not exercising patience and diligence. The NFL exercises patience and diligence, reviews the referees calls, and may penalize after due consideration. Some people can't wait for the NFL to review the record and video so they destroy stadiums and parking lots. But, it's just a game, right? People get SO emotional about team sports. I really think it is unhealthy at times. And, if you've ever done it as a frat boy at a university (I'm talking about what happened at the UW when I was attending in 2003, I was not involved other than being freaked out when I heard about it. see: <https://www.heraldnet.com/news/uw-frat-row-rioters-caught-on-videotape/>) then you must understand how such things might happen at times and the importance of leading by example. Lead by example to avoid hypocrisy. Golden Rule. Show the same respect to others you expect in return and my standards are so low right now that being

honest even if otherwise vicious is enough to get a "Namaste" from me in recognition of both your honesty and that as symbolic of showing me the bare minimum in regards to respect. And, where you perceive that as my bare minimum in a conversation it is usually because I've already caught you in multiple lies. But, I correct out of love and a desire for actual peaceful co-existence which includes when I correct myself. And, without civilization, wild kingdom and brute force becomes the equalizer with no other protocols. Civilization has rules for a reason. If you don't respect that then you are a hypocrite or stupid. You are a hypocrite if you believe rules don't exist or shouldn't apply to you while recognizing them and applying them to others. You are stupid if you think wild kingdom can be civilized without the establishment of civilization. And, you are a total moron if you believe you'd be in charge of anything more valuable than you are in charge of now after the collapse of civilization. I'm praying for everyone and love everyone. If impatient with me at times I do understand and I hope you do too.

#### Bonus Reality Check:

There was an average of 135 arrest-related deaths per month in the United States from 2015-2016. Source: <https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/ardprs1516pf.pdf> From 2003-2006 (last data I could find available for this portion), 2,686 people died during an arrest. The causes of death breakdown thus: 57.33% where law enforcement was responsible for the death, 0.48% where civilians were cause of deaths of other people, 11.8% where intoxication by drugs or alcohol was responsible for the deaths, 10.76% where individuals killed themselves or committed suicide with officers present, 6.76% where accident (i.e. car accident) was responsible for the deaths, 5.74% where death was from natural causes/illnesses (like someone having a heart attack and police showed up but emergency personnel couldn't save them), and 7.76% died of an unknown cause with police at the scene. Source: <https://www.bjs.gov/content/dcrp/tables/dcst06let1.pdf>

For all causes of the 2003-2006 deaths, the demographic breakdown is thus:

#### By Age:

Under 18: 68 arrest-related deaths making up approx. 2.5% of those who died under arguably similar circumstances. Of those 68, 52 died from homicide, 4 from drug/alcohol toxicity, 6 suicides, 5 accidents, 0 illnesses/natural causes, and 1 unknown cause. (That means the rate of fatality on drug/alcohol abuse for minors is at 5.88%.)

Ages 18-24 Years: 503 arrest-related deaths making up approx. 18.73% of those who died under arguably similar circumstances. Of those 503, 365 died from homicide, 30 from drug/alcohol toxicity, 49 suicides, 36 accidents, 4 natural causes/illnesses, and 19 unknown causes. (That means the rate of fatality on drug/alcohol abuse for young adults ages 18-24 is 5.96%.)

Ages 25-34 Years: 780 arrest-related deaths making up approx. 29% of those who died under arguably similar circumstances. Of those 780, 471 died from homicide, 111 from drug/alcohol toxicity, 73 suicides, 50 accidents, 22 natural causes/illnesses, and 53

unknown causes. (That means the rate of fatality on drug/alcohol abuse for those ages 25-34 Years is 14.23%. The number spikes in this demographic. Nearly triple that of minors.)

Ages 35-44 Years: 720 arrest-related deaths making up approx. 26.8% of those who died under arguably similar circumstances. Of those 720, 361 died from homicide, 111 from drug/alcohol toxicity, 91 suicides, 52 accidents, 33 natural causes/illnesses, and 72 unknown causes. (That means the rate of fatality on drug/alcohol abuse for those ages 35-44 Years is 15.42% and even higher than the 25-34 statistic.)

Ages 45-54 Years: 390 arrest-related deaths making up approx. 14.52% of those who died under arguably similar circumstances. Of those 390, 194 died from homicide, 50 from drug/alcohol toxicity, 42 suicides, 29 accidents, 46 natural causes/illnesses, and 29 unknown causes. (That means the rate of fatality on drug/alcohol abuse for the 45-54 year olds is 2.56% which is a big drop from the younger demographics.)

Ages 55 Years +: 164 arrest-related deaths making up approx. 6.11% of those who died under arguably similar circumstances. Of those 164 arrest-related deaths, 84 died of homicide, 7 from drug/alcohol toxicity, 22 suicides, 8 accidents, 34 natural causes/illnesses, and 9 unknown causes. (That means the rate of fatality on drug/alcohol abuse for the 55 and older demographic is 4.27%. (some stats have been rounded to closest number.)

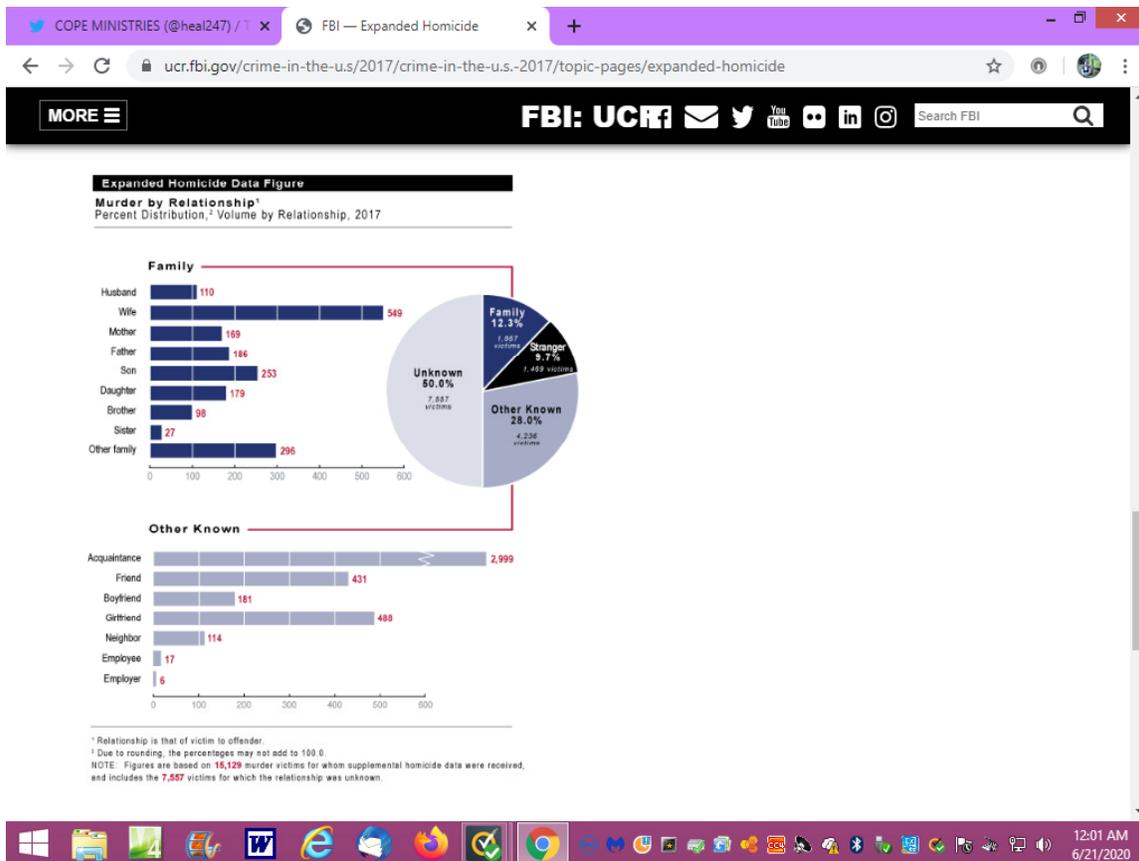
Source: <https://www.bjs.gov/content/dcrp/tables/dcst06let5.pdf>

So, based on the above it looks like those often required to be the most responsible, which is typically the 45-54 Years Old Demographic, are when it comes to drugs and alcohol. And, when compared to the 35-44 Years Old Demographic, 35.14% less likely to die during an arrest. 55 Years + Demographic make up only 6.11% and kids under 18 2.5%. So, minors and those 55 and older are not the problem. 8.61% compared to the 91.39% that the 18-54 year olds make up with a huge spike from 25-44 years old demographic speaks volumes. In addition, 454 persons identified as black and non-hispanic, died as a result of homicide during an arrest. And, that's approximately 17% of all arrest-related deaths with a census showing overall black and non-hispanic population of the United States of America at 13.4%. Source: <https://www.census.gov/data.html> So, the disproportional death-by-cop is by 3.6% differential. And, a 3% margin for error is reportedly 95% accurate according to Pew Research: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2016/09/08/understanding-the-margin-of-error-in-election-polls/>

42.67% of arrest-related deaths ARE DEFINITELY NOT LAW ENFORCEMENT'S FAULT AT ALL. And, until you get a job in law enforcement and are required to apprehend those who've reportedly committed or are in progress of committing a violent crime, remember who you'd call in event of emergency and act accordingly. And, who is to say whether or not that 3.6% differential is covered in the 42.67% of arrest-related deaths not caused by law enforcement?

AMENDMENT: I miscalculated and based on a recalculation it appears law enforcement may be responsible for 16.76% of deaths, where victims identified as non-hispanic black, by homicide during arrest rather than the 16.9% number. Here's where the error I believe occurred: I need to clarify, I may have made an error with the math. Total deaths with any cause (including homicide, etc) and cops on scene is 2686 (for stats used for calculation). Of those, 454 identified as non-hispanic blacks died of homicide with cops at scene. But, 1553 deaths by homicide makes the actual statistic 29.23% w/ law enforcement responsible for 57.33% of deaths at scene. So, a more accurate reading assuming law enforcement is responsible for 57.33% of the 29.23% w/ cops on scene, puts it at 16.76% rather than 16.9% or 17% from my earlier calculation. It really doesn't change the point made though.

AMENDMENT 2: First the screenshot with source on the 15,129 overall annual homicide rate:



Given law enforcement is responsible for 1,545 of the 1,553 homicides occurring with officers on the scene with 1,133 deaths not caused by officers nor any other person on the scene or 99.52% of arrest-related homicides, it would seem I failed you on the math but not in the way you might think. 51.9% of homicide victims are identified as non-hispanic black and 54.2% of homicide perpetrators also identified as non-hispanic black. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2017/crime-in-the-u.s.-2017/topic-pages/expanded-homicide> (Same source as above graphic.) What is 51.9% of 15,129? The answer is

7,852. How many victims of homicide by cop are identified as non-hispanic black in reports spanning 3 years? 454. (Source: <https://www.bjs.gov/content/dcrp/tables/dcst06let1.pdf> ) Divide 454 by 3 = 151.33 (rounding down to 151). So, 151 individuals identified as non-hispanic black in reports die as a result of homicide by cop.  $151/7,852 = 1.92\%$ . That makes cops responsible for 1.92% of homicides where victim is identified as non-hispanic black and 98.08% of victims are killed by someone other than cops. That number is disproportionate to the overall statistic. Including all homicides by cop regardless of victim demographic, it is 1545 over a 3 year period. 1545 divided by 3 is 515. So, that means cops are responsible for 515 out of a total 15,129 homicides annually based on the above sources. And, that works out to 3.04% of all homicides being homicides by cop and the other 96.96% something cops are authorized to address using force when necessary. So, the public is responsible for 96.96% of all homicides and 98.08% of homicides where victims were identified as non-hispanic black. The disproportionate issue is that the be proportionate cops would need to be responsible for 3.04% of homicides where victims are identified as non-hispanic black for #BlackLivesMatter to make any sense at all as a social justice movement. Proportionally, we should be treated equally and it seems like 3.04% to 1.92% is disproportionate where both should be equal. Controversial? Make sense and challenge me on my facts with your own. You might even be invited to provide a guest sermon. But, if you come at me understand I can do math though at times overwhelmed by too much information (and propoganda/fake news/misinformation).

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32 KJV Willful blindness is an abomination.

COPE accepts Feedback, critical and complimentary. Learn more at <http://www.churchofphilosophicalexploration.church/feedback.htm>. For the sake of keeping myself and others humble, a sense of humor is welcome on all sides.

For More About COPE and the HEAL Mission, see:

<https://www.cope.church> and <http://www.heal-online.org>