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DEFENDERS

Volume 3, Number 12

December 1973



EXERCISE THE GOLDEN RULE

AND

SHARE CHRISTMAS LOVE WITH ANIMAL FRIENDS

Subject of the Month

FORMULA FOR THE GOOD LIFE

THE GOLDEN RULE

December is the month in which it is easiest to be KIND, because Christmas is coming and there is a spirit of goodwill among all people. It is the month when nearly everyone lives by the Golden Rule, taught by Jesus, whose birthday is celebrated at Christmas. He said, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Notice how very much the Golden Rule is like our own KIND pledge: "I promise to be kind to animals and people and to speak and act in defense of all helpless living creatures." If you were helpless, wouldn't you want someone to speak and act in your defense? Of course.

Few people really understand the Golden Rule or apply it this way, perhaps because they have never experienced a time when they were completely helpless or mistreated as animals often are. We are certain Jesus meant the Golden Rule to apply to proper treatment of animals, just as surely as it was meant to apply to the people you meet.

Every other major religion in the world has a Golden Rule that is very similar to the one Jesus taught. Each is a simple formula for living a good life in such a manner that others will be helped through kindness and concern for their welfare. Each is the only real solution to living together successfully on Earth, in perfect harmony and peace with all the other living inhabitants of Earth, both men and animal.

The most beautiful people we have ever met nearly always believe in a Golden Rule and try to follow it in everything they do. KIND members who live by our KIND pledge are beautiful people, too. If everyone lived by one of these Golden Rules, there would be no war. People would share with others who are not as fortunate as they are. There would be no room for greed or competition at the expense of someone else. Everyone would be brothers, and the world's inhabitants would all be one big, happy, friendly, and loving and caring family. It would be the realization of the Christmas message of the angels when they sang, "Peace on Earth, Good Will To Men."

Somehow this hasn't happened in the 2000 years since that event, or before, when people had the other Golden Rules to live by. That doesn't mean it couldn't happen, perhaps starting just in your own family unit, because it might just spread to your neighbors and friends. If enough KIND members made it happen, there would be a whole new way of life for many people.

Here are just some of the other Golden Rules that other people have to live by:

Brahmanism: This is the sum of duty: Do naught unto others which would cause you pain if done to you. - Mahabharata 5:1517

Buddhism: Hurt not others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful. - Udanavarga 5:18

Confucianism: Is there one maxim which ought to be acted upon throughout one's whole life? Surely it is the maxim of loving-kindness: Do not unto others what you would not have them do unto you. - Analects 15:23

Taoism: Regard your neighbor's gain as your own gain, and your neighbor's loss as your own loss. - T'ai-Shang Kan-Ying P'ien.

Judaism: What is hateful to you, do not to your fellow man. That is the entire law; all the rest is commentary. - Talmud, Shabbat 51a

Christianity: All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the Law and the Prophets. - Matthew 7:12

Islam: No one of you is a believer until he desires for his brother that which he desires for himself. - Sunan

The spirit of Christmas can be kept all year long, simply by following our KIND pledge or any one of these Golden Rules as a way of life. Set the example in your own family and community, and see how your life influences others toward a better way of life.



TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE OWNER FINED

The United States Department of Agriculture has finally taken legal action against people who 'sore' their Tennessee Walking Horses. This action is the enforcement of the federal Horse Protection Act of 1970. Two owners were fined \$1,000 each on September 7, and on October 23 another owner was fined \$1,000, and two of his employees were fined \$500 each. Both legitimate horse exhibitors and humane society investigators have been impatient with USDA investigators who inspected sored horses but did nothing about them. The horses' feet are made sore to make them raise their feet higher, creating an unusual style of gait. Soring is done because the competition in these shows is so fierce, and everybody wants his horse to win. One of the most common soring agents used, oil of mustard, is called 'scooter juice.' It is rubbed on the horses' feet and burns terribly. One rumor stated that two USDA investigators inspected a number of sored horses, but didn't disqualify them from the show. It wasn't until they had gotten into their car and driven away that they realized someone had smeared 'scooter juice' all over the car seat. Perhaps it was the 'scooter juice' that started all the action. KIND members can encourage more effective enforcement of this law by writing USDA officials and complimenting them on taking people who violate the law to court.

United States Department of Agriculture
Independence Ave. Bet. 12th & 14th Sts., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250



THE ENERGY CRISIS AND CLASSROOM ANIMALS



Many schools are being asked to lower their thermostats to conserve energy in this present emergency when there is not enough fuel. Reducing the temperature of the classroom could harm or kill some animals kept in the classroom. Guinea pigs, for instance, should have temperatures between 68 and 72 degrees at all times. If the thermostat is turned below this overnight or on weekends, they will surely die. If your school has classroom animals, there are ways of protecting them from harm: 1. Keep them in a special room where the temperature is not turned down, 2. Keep a 40 watt light bulb, with a hood over it, in their cages, or 3. Arrange for someone to take them home each weekend.

A PRESENT FOR YOUR PET

Remember your pet at Christmas and wrap a special gift for him. At the right time you can show him the present and he'll probably understand it is something special for him. Getting a present of his own helps him to share in the fun of Christmas.



PHOTO CONTEST

"LOVE IS A DOG AND A CAT TOGETHER" IS THE TITLE OF THIS PHOTO, WHICH WON CORNELIA HARRISON SECOND PRIZE IN OUR SUMMER DEFENDERS PHOTO CONTEST. THE CAT'S NAME IS TINKER AND THE DOG'S NAME IS BUTCH. CORNELIA IS 12 YEARS OLD.

WINNING BRANCH CLUB PROJECT ENTRY

The Eagles Kindness Club sent the best project to help animals and won our project contest in the Branch Club category. Here is their report:

We are practicing to give a play for parents, neighbors and friends. We have chosen the book "How Joe the Bear and Sam the Mouse Got Together." We are changing it to be "The Bear Family (boys) and the Samantha Mouse Family" (girls). Everyone will have a part. Admission charges and profits from sale of refreshments will be added to garage sale funds and given to our local humane society to help build a new shelter. We are making our own scenery and props. We are hoping to make some of the literature we ordered available to those who attend our show. Mrs. Nancy Raver is our Raccoon Captain. The Eagles Kindness Club is in Lima, Ohio.

REPORTS OF PROJECTS NEEDED

What are you doing to help animals? Perhaps your special project will give other KIND members a good idea. Send reports of your projects, and Branch Club reports to KIND. If you can send a photo of your project, we may be able to publish it in your newsletter.



CATS AND CHRISTMAS TREES

Protect your cat and your Christmas tree, if you have one this year, from each other. Cats love to climb trees and are also attracted by blinking lights, bright decorations, and shiny tinsel. If he should eat some of that tinsel, it could cut up his stomach badly. Keep your cat protected from the Christmas tree. Plant materials poisonous to cats in some degree are holly berries, philodendron, rhododendron, and ivy, and most dangerous of all, mistletoe.

Dear KIND,

This year we are not going to have a Christmas tree, to help ecology. I think it's terrible, that each year thousands of beautiful trees are cut down. I know Christmas trees are nice to have and look at, but it's a thing we can do without.

Kim Harper, age 13, Redding, Ca.

Dear Kim:

A great idea! I've been able to keep a special tree in a tub, living in the house each winter, but it has to be kept in a cool room. Perhaps by removing some of the baubles and tinsel from Christmas, we can all get back to more genuine love, brotherhood, and peace. -Editor

Dear KIND,

I joined KIND when I was 9. Since then I have gotten 20 people to join, raised funds, wrote senators, and urged people to be kind. My father received a Fullbright scholarship and we are now living this year in Cyprus. On our way we visited 10 countries!

In Scotland animals run free and people are so kind that the few stray dogs are fed. In Belgium they have mostly cats and they are sleek and well kept. Holland dogs must be on a leash when permitted outside. There aren't many animals in Germany. Denmark has mostly farm animals. Austria has special parks for squirrels. In Yugoslavia animals are neglected and go without food and many are strays. In Greece dogs are popular and they are fat and lazy. Health regulations prohibit bringing dogs into Cyprus.

Sincerely, Kerri Ballantyne, age 12

A NEW WAY TO HELP ANIMALS

Diane Stout, age 11, has found a new way to help animals and to promote KIND. She has started a newspaper called Animal Kingdom, Wild and Tame, and distributes it to her classmates at the John B. Cary School in Hampton, Virginia. She writes some of her own stories, uses some information from her DEFENDERS newsletter, and urges readers to become KIND members and help animals. Diane plans to be a zoologist. She has discovered a great way of helping animals that you might like to try at your own school.

* * *

Dennis the Menace and his friends visit the S.P.C.A. The comic book, #130, is on the newsstands now.

* * *

We have no more right to consume happiness without producing it, than we have to consume wealth without producing it.

George Bernard Shaw

Dear KIND,

There is a man who admitted to my Mother he poisons the dogs that he thinks are killing his sheep. Several dogs in town have been poisoned. What can we do?

Julie McGregor, age 14

Dear Julie:

Discuss this with your Mother and ask her if she will report this to the police department. I am sure they will investigate. To be absolutely sure, I am also writing them to ask them to investigate, and I won't mention your name, of course.

Your friend, Dale Hylton

Dear KIND,

Thank you for your help. Our police department made this man move his sheep out of town. There have not been any dogs poisoned for some time now.

K. I. N. D.

KINDNESS IN NATURE'S DEFENSE

"BE KIND"

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EAST HADDAM, CT 06423

Address
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Requested

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ANIMAL NOTE STATIONERY

Order your animal note stationery offered by KIND. See your August newsletter for descriptions. All but #359 are still available, and we plan to keep this stationery in stock to fill your orders. You will also like the attractive wildlife pins described in your October newsletter.

TIME TO RENEW

If you haven't renewed your KIND membership for 1974, do it now. Use the form below and send your dues in right away.

1974 KIND MEMBERSHIP

New Member \$2.00

Renewal \$2.00

Name

Birthdate

Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

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R. Dale Hylton, Editor

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