



SOCIAL MEDIA COMPACT

A SUGGESTED SET OF GUIDELINES FOR ALL THOSE WHO USE SOCIAL MEDIA

1. All individuals, whether we know them personally or not, will be treated with respect. While vigorous debate and disagreement may take place, we will consider the other person before we express ourselves.
2. We will presume, as much as possible, the good intentions of those we engage with. We will not presume to know the opinions of others unless they have been clearly stated. We will seek to build up, not tear down.
3. We will, as far as possible, question and concern ourselves with the logic, truthfulness and ethical grounding of propositions rather than the motives, integrity or character of persons.
4. When disagreeing with others, we will not simply denounce their ideas or actions. Rather, when possible, we will propose an alternative, genuinely constructive course of action.
5. We will employ healthy skepticism and a desire for truth and accuracy as it relates to the actions and opinions of others, but we will avoid the trap of toxic cynicism.
6. We will use humor and irony, and will avoid sarcasm and negativity. Our ultimate goal is to foster comity and dialogue.
7. Even when the objects of attack and undue criticism, we will not use a sharper mode of response. We will continue to hold the high ground in any situation.
8. When we are wrong, we will promptly admit, correct the record as necessary, and ask to move on past our error.
9. We will, as far as possible, identify and celebrate the best in what we see and experience, and continue to challenge that is cruel, unjust and harmful to others.
10. We will pause before we post and ask ourselves if what we are sharing is true, kind and helpful. We will not fall prey to the negative behavior of others, but instead attempt to serve as an example for those who observe how we act. Further before turning to Social Media, we will begin with those in authority who can provide answers and help prevent the spread of false information or miscommunication.