

2. Consider a personal example (or a public news story) and discuss some real or possible impacts of:

- Closeted secrets
- Time bombs exploding a good reputation
- Tainting a personal or family or community or organizational legacy

3. Why do you think some people live lives that lack integrity?

4. Is living a life of integrity a choice? If so, how does one make such a choice?

5. Does having integrity really matter? Why?

Authority in General

1. True or false?

- "Most of us don't choose most of the things we experience every day."
- "We can choose how we deal with them."

2. What does this phrase mean, "The buck stops here!"?

3. Do you remember a time when you realized that your parents or someone else had authority over you?

4. Name some entities that have authority over your life.

5. What examples or symbols of authority do you possess?

6. What symbols of authority do you want to obtain and why?

7. How is authority helpful?

8. Discuss this statement:

"Without authority, governments would not exist, nor would nations. No leaders, no rulers, no rules; no religions, no allegiances; no servants, no legal or moral responsibilities, and no blame. Ever."

9. Why do you think people and groups seek authority?

10. Review the following, add your own categories, and discuss:
 - Parents = bedtime authority
 - Government = traffic authority
 - God = moral authority

11. Do you think it is true that every culture and social group throughout history seems to manifest some type of authority structure? If so, why?

12. Discuss the outline about authority Virginia wrote on page 44.

13. Discuss these two statements:

"Religions across history have influenced governments and their policies. Although many wish it were not so, a system of law and its principles has never been, nor will it ever be, religiously or morally neutral. Somebody or something gives all laws authority – either God, or the will of the people, or their military, courts or accepted leaders."

"It is no more possible to remove religion and morality from politics than it is to remove oxygen from breathable air. Where there is human behavior, there will be morality; where there are human souls, there will be religion. Unless we can remove people who have behavior and souls from politics and citizenship, then everyone in Society and beyond will have to contend with religion and morality."

Ultimate Authority

1. Discuss the concept of a having a personal "worldview."
2. What does it mean to have an "ultimate authority" in your life?
3. Who or what is your ultimate authority?

Attitude

1. Discuss the concept of "attitude."

2. Discuss how attitude can cause people looking at or experiencing the same thing to see or experience it differently.

Extra Discussion

Discuss these concepts/statements:

"The dark non-existence of anonymity."

"Rather than attempt to navigate the social demands required by interaction, it was simpler to separate and stay hidden, unknown, and unencumbered, except by the dark shadows inherent in a life asunder."