

WHERE DO WE
WANT TO GO
TOGETHER?



SHARED VISION

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And for that we are going to have to use our imaginations
So close your eyes and just imagine....



Envision Nonviolence

You live in a society where it is universally recognized that all forms of violence - interpersonal, self-directed, structural and collective - are interconnected and interdependent - and preventable.

People - men, women, children - feel safe walking the streets at night and being in their homes, schools and offices without fear.

People are no longer discriminated against because of their gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, identity.

A vertical stack of five smooth, dark grey stones is positioned on the left side of the slide. The stones are stacked on a surface of water, which creates a clear reflection of the stones below them. The background is a light, hazy blue gradient.

ENVISION NONVIOLENCE

Punitive forms of response to problem behavior are seen as useless, stupid, inherently violent, and retaliatory in nature and thus a breeding ground for escalating retaliatory violence.

The very idea that anyone would lack enough food to eat, or a roof over their head is simply ridiculous

Respect, care and compassion are the guiding values for behavior toward children, family, colleagues, subordinates, and oneself.



ENVISION NONVIOLENCE

Weapons are viewed as dangerous and unnecessary and a love of weaponry is seen as a sign of immaturity.

Child maltreatment, domestic violence and sexual assault are viewed as perplexing and irrational problems of the past, a bit like bleeding someone to cure an infection.

Bullying at home, at school, at work, and on the streets is just not cool, old-fashioned, passé.

ENVISION EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

The work of emotional labor is understood, honored and valued.

Emotions are recognized as an important component of thought.

It is universally understood that our emotions help us to value what is important in life when rational thought alone may betray us.

Emotions are always considered as a part of solving problems, individually and collectively.

ENVISION EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Workplaces are safe, secure, reliable, playful, loving, compassionate and productive

Everyone learns ways in which their emotions can be manipulated by others and are therefore able to adequately protect themselves.

Leaders understand that a key part of their job is to recognize, contain and manage emotions in their organizations.

ENVISION SOCIAL LEARNING

Individuals and organizations learn from experience and make healthy adaptations to changing conditions.

Pre-existing knowledge is retained and integrated with new knowledge.

To promote learning, change and conflict are welcomed as opportunities.

ENVISION OPEN COMMUNICATION

People mean what they say without being mean when they say it.

Everyone communicates directly and, as much as possible, use words to convey what they mean.

Failures in communication are seen as opportunities to improve, not an opportunity to assign blame.

ENVISION OPEN COMMUNICATION

Keeping secrets is seen as dangerous to the well-being of individuals and groups

Boundaries and privacy are understood and respected.

Lying and deceit are seen as barriers to healthy individuals, groups, and societies.

ENVISION DEMOCRACY

The skills that are necessary for democratic participation are taught such as expressing oneself, deeply listening to others, conflict management, compromise, self-control, self-discipline, self-respect, and respect for others.

These participatory skills are modeled by leadership and leaders expect universal participation.

People – adults and children - expect to have a say in their homes, schools, workplaces and communities and view participation as a responsibility, not just a right.

ENVISION DEMOCRACY

Diversity of opinion is actively sought because it is of benefit to the individual and to the group.

Abuse of power rarely happens, in part because the social norm no longer tolerates it and in part because the system of checks and balances on the misuse of power is kept in good working order.

ENVISION SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

We recognize that fairly distributing individual and social justice is the key to having a peaceful, nonviolent and safe society.

Shared ethical principles are the basis for our families, our institutions, and our society – in word and deed.

We have fully grasped that we must always be balancing our individual needs with the responsibility we have to our communities.

ENVISION SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

We are committed to forms of justice that are restorative, not retributive

We recognize that all of the time we are either part of a solution or part of a problem, that in a healthy group there are no bystanders.

We have learned to recognize that injustice to one is injustice to all, that human rights are a critical determinant of human survival

ENVISION GROWTH & CHANGE

We set clear and achievable goals for change and everything we do is oriented around whether or not we are achieving those goals.

We use a vision of a better future to motivate us to achieve those goals.

ENVISION GROWTH AND CHANGE

We recognize that when people resist change it is because they are resisting what they are going to lose in order to change and in honoring their losses, we help them to move.

We recognize that the past always has a grip on us, that reenactment is a powerful force, because rather than lose whatever we already have, we are likely to repeat the past, even if it brings us more pain.

ENVISION GROWTH AND CHANGE

We realize that the only thing that sets humanity apart from the other forms of life we share this planet with is the power that we have – and the responsibility that goes along with it - to decide whether to support destruction and annihilation or support life in its myriad forms.

We have learned to live within the circle of life, consciously, respectfully, playfully, joyfully.

Our children are healthy, creative and grateful to be alive.

Heaven may or may not exist but why wait, at least for something that could be much, much better?

