



What can Schools and Communities Do?



An adults' overriding concern about children is not on health problems, safety or poverty- topics so often are the focus of child advocates- but rather character and values. "The public believes values are a vaccine; if you inoculate teens with them, they will be able to resist the world's many troubles."

- **T (TEACH):** Teach children their character counts. People of character know the difference between right and wrong when their actions are guided by the Five Marks of Character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Accountability, Citizenship and Kindness.
- **E (ENFORCE):** Instill the Marks of Character by rewarding good behavior while discouraging negative instance with fair and consistent consequences. Demonstrate courage to enforce the Marks of Character even when it's tough.
- **A (ADVOCATE):** Encourage children to live up to the Five Marks of Character. Discuss their importance and help to infuse character education throughout the school so it may become a common language and a way of living.
- **M (MODEL):** Set an example; "Preach what we practice." Be a good role model.

"A teacher affects all eternity. You never know where his influence stops."

-- Henry Adams