

Words of Inspiration

LETTERS FROM LEADERS

EDITORS' NOTE: We have asked a number of world leaders for their words of inspiration so they may be of help to the young future leaders of the world. These messages will be published in book form for distribution to schools throughout the world. The proceeds will be given to charity for scholarships for those who are in need.

We thought it would be appropriate to share some of these messages with you.

Here is one that is especially timely when integrity and principles are under scrutiny.

Just about everything I have learned about leadership I learned in the Marine Corps. At a fairly young age, I learned a few basic tenets and principles that I use every day.

You need to have a certain amount of discipline and knowledge about your job. So focus on your job and learn it well. I also think it's necessary to have integrity and enthusiasm. If you don't like what you're doing, you might never succeed and you're certainly not going to be happy. If you find something you like doing, you'll do it well.

I have given a couple of graduation speeches, and I always say that money is overrated. I've never made a decision based on money, and I've never regretted it. So don't make a decision based on money. America has enough money-makers. We need visionaries and people with principles. It's nice to have money, but if it's your sole motivation, you're missing something.

So my advice to young people is: feel your way around, find something you really like doing, and devote yourself to it totally. That course of action will lead to success.

The Honorable Raymond W. Kelly
Police Commissioner of the City of New York