

Can a society function without respect? My mom shared with me the online flyer for this essay contest right before I went to bed a few days ago. I was up for a while tossing and turning about this question. *Respect for what?* It made me wonder. Were they talking about respect for authorities, Earth, the general public, the economy, or everything in between?

So I decided to write an essay about everything I thought about, instead of narrowing it down to one topic about respect.

A society without respect for authorities would probably end up being a crime-ridden city because no one would respect the police and the firefighters that put themselves in danger every day to help keep us safe. In a crime-ridden city, there would be daily crimes, and no one would be safe. No one would want to go outside and all would be lost for most people, except for the people who didn't respect the authorities. Who would want to live here? What kind of society is this?

A society without respect for Earth would be littered with all sorts of things. Plastic bottles, paper, food wrappers, newspapers, plastic bags, candy wrappers, fast food containers. there would be no clean place to step. Don't forget about air pollution! Soon enough we would all die out from an overdose of chemicals in our oxygen. And imagine life for all the animals and plants that help make your Earth a nice place to live. Plants would die out because there would be no space for them to grow. Animals could eat some potentially hazardous things, that cause them great harm, and possibly death.

A society with zero respect for the general public would involve the most dangerous place you can imagine. Oh, I don't even want to think about it. There would be no respect for one other, and we would all be turned against each other, because we do not respect one another.

A society without any respect for the economy to me means people making financial transactions that bankrupt institutions like banks, retirement savings, loans, etc., and not caring about supporting local businesses. No one would be able to make any money legally, and the local economy would crash, leaving everyone to bundle up and try to find a new home.

A society with no respect for everything in between? I don't even want to think about it. Imagine a world with nothing right. It would be terrible, since we would have no respect for anything. Respect is what a good society runs on.

In my Farmington Hills community, which I also call my society, there is respect for everyone and everything.

The society or community that I spend the most time in and influence is my school. I spend approximately 1,260 hours in school a year! That's about 14.39% of a year! Compared to everywhere else; volleyball practice, academic class, dance class, art class, playdates, after-care, summer camps, and just relaxing at home, that's huge! There is a respect for the building; sure, you'll find the occasional piece of trash in the

hallway, but there are no huge damages like vandalism and property damage. We have respect for each other. There are no fights, and no really mean people.

Take my friends for example. We may tease each other occasionally, but we're still nice to each other. We all know each other, and we know that everyone we know is going through a hard battle.

We are reading a book in English class called *Auggie and Me*, which is a companion to a book called *Wonder*. Both books are representing different ideas on how and why to be nice to people, because everyone is fighting a hard battle. While some might be more serious than others, each one is hard.

And we have respect for authorities, also known as teachers in a school building. No respect for the economy at school would mean wasting school resources and stealing other items that cost lots of money, which doesn't happen.

My community is the best I could hope for. We have respect for each other, and for our environment and the rules that we all respect.

So Can a Society Function without Respect? Sure, you could argue yes on this topic, but the clearer and easier answer? No.