



The Top Ten Laws of Respect in the Workplace – A Professional Guide: Preview

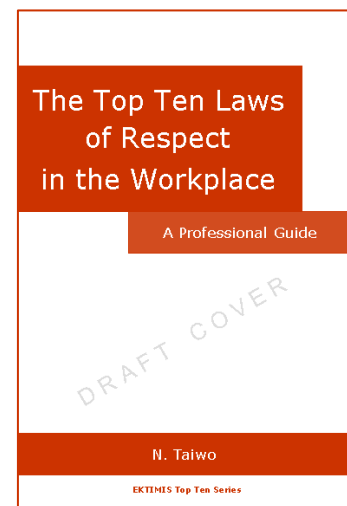
In the last edition of Ektimis I provided a preview of the first of my three new books due out later this year. In this edition I shall provide a preview of the second of my three new books. This book, *The Top Ten Laws of Respect in the Workplace – A Professional Guide*, will be formally released concurrently with the first in October.

Much like the first book *The Top Ten Laws of Respect in the Workplace – A Professional Guide* presents a set of ten key principles that govern respect (between people) in a work environment. The ten principles are also broken into three groups: foundational laws, influential laws, and sustainment laws. I developed these principles concurrently with the principles presented in the first book in 2007—again based on established research and studies on respect and several related topics by notable philosophers, scientists, research professionals, scholars and other experts.

Research in the field of organizational psychology has shown that respect is a major value component in the quality of a workplace culture. Studies have also shown that the type of workplace culture in which we find ourselves can determine to a large degree how well we are able to perform our duties.

Several of the ten principles in this book are the same as some of the principles in the first book, but the context in this case is the workplace—a place where most of us spend a good part of our daily lives. Again, as with the first book, the principles are brought to life and presented in a practical way, with different illustrative stories. My intent is that this book will serve as a valuable guide and a professional development tool for people in all works of life, as well as upper management and human resources professionals. Here is a preview of Law #7.

Law Seven: *It's easy to gain respect when you command it; it's harder to gain respect when you demand it.* This principle of respect is covered in chapter seven in the book. The following is an (intro) extract from one of the chapter's illustrative stories.



Author of RESPECT: Gaining It and Sustaining It

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Don's Rules

Don was the vice president of customer service for a large company. He joined the firm at a young age and brought with him a reputation for high energy and getting the job done. He was put in charge of a large call center that served thousands of customers. His (vice president-level) position within the company gained him instant (positional) respect from his very first day on the job. Everyone who worked with him thought of him as knowledgeable and professional. He quickly established a rapport with his four managers who reported to him daily. Don felt good about everything and thought that he commanded the respect of everyone. (Story continues in the book...)

This principle—Law #7—is a very powerful one. In many work environments, where there are hierarchies of positions, we often find individuals in positions of authority demanding respect from their subordinates above and beyond a level afforded them by virtue of their position. Such individuals clearly fail to realize the essence of the 7th law, and the further up the organizational hierarchy you go, the more paramount this law becomes.

If you have spent a great deal of time and effort earning the respect of others in your workplace, including superiors, peers, and subordinates, one of several key strategies for sustaining the achieved level of respect is embodied by the 7th law.

Cheers and thank you – N. Taiwo

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