

2019 A Social Standard

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Introduction

This is the first draft version of A Social Standard for 2019. The first 10 standards are examples and not expected to be completed standards. Each one is incomplete and needs a lot of refinement. Creating the additional 20 standards, will start to enable the improvements and discover the requirements needed to be covered in the other standards.

There are to be meetings and discussions to develop and improve the standards before any final version is released. Find dates at asocialstandard.com or join the forum to help contribute towards the evolution.

20 More standards is an estimate to make a total of 30 that is needed for a general purpose set of standards that covers day to day life. This can change, but keeping simple and clear without too many rules is always a benefit. Further specialist standards can be developed as required whilst the project progresses.

Please read the About A Social Standard document for the concepts, ideas and purpose to the initiative. This is available from <https://asocialstandard.com/documents/>

I personally have tried to write a list of 30 standards. I quickly realised how much input, feedback and evaluation that is required to produce a balanced, complete and satisfying document. For this reason I created this draft document and started to invite people to meetings much earlier than originally anticipated. This can only be a positive decision. Sooner than later is better to start making this a more valuable piece of work through others contributions.

A Standard's requirements:

- Represents the current values
- Considers conflicts in values
- Is not biased
- Does not represent an ideal principle
- Is as clear and simple as possible
- Allows for easy interpretation to be applied in day to day life
- Is easy to refer to
- Is as simple as possible
- Helps to simplify life
- Does not state a personal opinion of right or wrong
- A limit of 800 words per standard

The statement of purpose:

We the people should not be dictated to by governments, business, religion, media's, and individuals to the social standards we want for our society. We the people can create and develop a model we can stand by for how we are as a community. Influential institutions can now refer to the document as they way in which their behaviour can be considered acceptable.

1. Do not intentionally harm another.

People that are considered to intentionally physically harm another are amongst the worst offenders in society. Intentional emotional damage is a far more complicated behaviour to make judgements on.

Intentionally harming another person can be interpreted in many ways. Physical or emotional harm can be made against someone. Often they are combined. Physical harm is considered the most dangerous as the human body cannot repair a blinded eye, or a fatal knife wound that kills a person. Emotional harm is harder to quantify as the effects are not so obvious.

The only acceptable time for intentional harmful behaviour is in sport. Where opponents agree to the rules of the game, of which could result in injury. Contact sports such as boxing, or karate as two examples. Breaking the rules in this context can be punished less than if they were to happen in normal life.

2. Treat everyone equally

Equal opportunities have a high importance in modern culture. Ensuring anyone that has less opportunities than others is given a fair chance to succeed is the objective. This particularly includes people from a different race, gender, age, or disability that may not have the advantages of the main culture.

The development in politically correct behaviours have enforced the rights of people from every way of life. Attitudes that are considered unfair can be challenged through the criminal law system.

Social circles must also behave according to these expectations of treating people of all races, genders and capabilities equally. There are cases where traditional values are seen as offensive and cause difficulties between friends, relatives and social groups.

3. Manage your lifestyle carefully

The modern lifestyle is aimed to maintain a content balance of work and play. It is one of the hardest things to get right for each person as the unique requirements are difficult to fulfil. Taking time away from normal life allows you to take a break from normal life. You can relax with friends, experience new things and behave in ways that you would not normally do so.

Ensure that your work doesn't overtake the time you have to relax with friends and family, enjoy hobbies, and time out for yourself. Get enough sleep for your body and mind to rest well. Regular sleep deprivation leads to physical and emotional difficulties.

Exercising daily is important for helping your body keep healthy. Many positive effects happen to the sense of well being as well as physical capabilities.

4. Technology is making our life easier

Technology is seen as the saviour to problems that we have in day to day lives. It is also considered as what makes life more exiting with the possibility to do new and interesting things. It brings independence and freedom to those that crave the ability to do things that are not normally possible.

We are able to do more, quicker and easier. Travel, obtaining information, recording information, and sharing information are now operating at a different level from 20 years ago.

Addiction and over reliance on personal devices are starting to become social and personal problems. Gaming, and social interactions can be unrealistic and unhealthy. The direct connection to peoples personal space can make it difficult to manage a sense of real world perspective.

5. The world natural environment is important

Environmental issues are confused and difficult to specifically pinpoint due to the complexity of all the different factors. Although some still regard the environmental changes happening as not relevant to human activity, it is widely perceived that causing unnecessary damage to the planets ecological system is not a good thing.

Not using a car when you can walk, or electricity that is produced in a non-environmentally damaging way are two common ideas practised.

Difficulties often come when people are required to sacrifice lifestyle choices over the the choice for the environment. Considerations to the damage of one airplane flight for a holiday compared to the trash generated in a year are difficult to consciously consider and justify.

6. Support others when you can

Supporting someone to achieve their goals is considered a behaviour that comes especially from friends and family. Education and welfare systems are also expected to support people, but not in such a personal sense of the statement.

Positive support is considered best practise although value is also given to realism and feedback that maybe negative but in a constructive sense for improvement. Negative criticism that is purely destructive about someone ability, achievements, or goals is not considered a positive influence in someones life.

It can be considered that negative and destructive feedback can be a toughening experience that makes you stronger. It can cause people to lose faith in their goal and give up. It is also seen as a sign of peoples determination to achieve something even after a battle through negative experiences to still achieve their dream.

7. Be open minded

Open minded people are considered themselves superior to those that are closed minded. The closed minded people are often those that have traditional views or views that are not considered acceptable by modern society.

Open minded people are able to accept any one from any race, culture or behaviour. When amongst open minded people, these people that they are able to accept must behave according to the normal patterns of behaviour of the open minded people.

However this is not required when these people return to their own race, culture as they can continue with their normal life styles.

(This is a little cheeky right now)

8. Do not steal

Stealing is considered as taking property of someone else for your own without their permission. Someone else's property can be specified when purchased from a shop in exchange for an agreed currency. Things can be given to another by consent of the other who are then the new owner.

Possession is said to be 9 tenths of the law. This means that the current possessor of something has much more power in the eye of the law than the claimant by another of possession.

There are moral implications on anyone that steals, and someone that is stolen from. The effects on the community can create deep divisions when property cannot be left unchecked.

9. Do not lie

Lying is considered an act of not telling someone the truth about a situation. Truth is considered relevant to the situation. However lying is where information that effects a situation is not shared to the effected people correctly intentionally. Lies can cause a lack of trust between people which breaks down relationships that enable day to day life to happen.

White lies are considered acceptable for a duration of time if it helps a situation resolve easier. Long term building of white lies are considered a negative impact and can cause difficulties in situations.

People who lie constantly are considered untrustworthy and not reliable to live amongst. They will be often reject by people who are not liars. They are considered detrimental to social structures, and the personal well-being of the people they interact with.

10. Personal development is a priority

Developing personally is relatively new in the mainstream culture. Personal development and “discovering yourself” is something that is almost becoming standard for most people at some point in their life.

Healing past experiences, opening up to the world, and exploring the person within are regular themes people will approach. Religion and alternative lifestyles are two ways of exploring personal development. It is considered a lifelong practice for some.