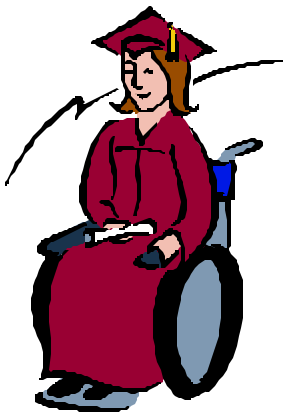


# Character Minutes



## Teacher Guide



South Carolina Department of Education  
Instructional Television  
Post Office Box 11000  
Columbia, SC 29211



EXPANDING THE VIEW  
South Carolina ETV

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1101 George Rogers Boulevard  
Post Office Box 11000  
Columbia, SC 29211

# ***Character Minutes***

## **Teacher Guide**

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## **Produced by**

The South Carolina Educational Television Network

***Suggestions for Use:*** *Since these short segments are all approximately one minute in duration, they are excellent to include in your school news programs. Teachers may also use them as lesson “triggers” to stimulate discussion and to supplement curriculum objectives.*

## ***Character Minutes Programs***

1. Coach Leggett: Work Ethic
2. Coach Leggett: Work Equals Stress?
3. Patti Just: Three P's
4. Patti Just: Confidence
5. Chief Austin: Ready to Learn
6. Chief Austin: Peers
7. Chief Austin: Value System
8. Chief Austin: Right and Wrong
9. Chief Austin: Courage
10. Carolyn Sawyer: Caring People
11. Carolyn Sawyer: Treating Disrespect
12. Joe Pinner: Caring
13. Joe Pinner: Positive Influence
14. Joe Pinner: Finding Self-Esteem
15. Harry Dent: Principles
16. Marie-Louise Ramsdale: Listening
17. Marie-Louise Ramsdale: Education
18. Marie-Louise Ramsdale: Media Influence
19. Harry Dent: 10 Virtues
20. Harry Dent: Integrity
21. Marie-Louise Ramsdale: Respect: Being Open-Minded
22. Marie-Louise Ramsdale: Respect: Being Polite
23. Marie-Louise Ramsdale: Criticism
24. Bishop John Hurst Adams: Compassion
25. Rick Henry: Courage
26. Rick Henry: Being Courageous
27. Coach Eddie Fogler: Discipline
28. Kelly G. McCalla: Dependability

## ***Character Minutes***

This series focuses on positive character traits, such as a belief in work ethic, perseverance, fortitude, and the ability to work as part of a team. Each program features a prominent person in the community, including Jack Leggett, baseball coach at Clemson University; Patti Just, former anchor at WJWJ-TV; and Charles Austin, chief of police in Columbia. The short, concise programs contain valuable content that could be used in a weekly school news program, as a writing activity in a language arts class, or as a discussion topic. All grade levels can benefit from this series.

### **1) Coach Leggett: Work Ethic**

Coach Leggett stresses the importance of work ethic in this segment. He relates hard work to positive results. These positive results include wins and feeling good about oneself. There is a choice to work hard and to be a positive role model. One is able to achieve a great deal with a hard work ethic.

### **2) Coach Leggett: Work Equals Stress?**

Coach Leggett dismisses the common associations made between work and stress. Hard work makes one prepared. If one is prepared, then there will be less stress. However, if one does not work hard, then stress will usually occur. This is usually a result of procrastination or not being prepared properly. Hard work creates good feelings that help alleviate stress.

### **3) Patti Just: Three P's**

Patti Just is a woman confined to a wheelchair. She stresses the importance of the three P's: Persistence, Perseverance, and a Positive Attitude. The three P's help one make it through life, especially concerning difficult circumstances.

### **4) Patti Just: Confidence**

Patti Just talks about some her life experiences. She has experienced rejection because of her confinement to a wheel chair, but she is able to still have confidence in herself. Despite her rejection from different jobs, she remained confident, and she knew that someone would give her a chance. She encourages others to keep trying and sooner or later they will succeed.

### **5) Chief Austin: Ready to Learn**

Chief Austin reminds students of the access that they have to teachers and other adults. There is so much that they can learn from others, but they have to be willing to participate and willing to receive what others are offering them.

### **6) Chief Austin: Peers**

Chief Austin encourages students to have an influence on their peers. He believes that students can have more influence on their peers than adults can. He claims that adults have the responsibility to be role models, but the students must reinforce this to their peers. He encourages students not to be afraid to stand up for what is right.

### **7) Chief Austin: Value System**

Chief Austin encourages students to make sure that the value system that they have learned becomes their driving force in life. He believes that students must stand for their value system. Therefore, it is their responsibility to stand up for what is right.

### **8) Chief Austin: Right and Wrong**

Chief Austin reminds students to draw from their personal values. From these personal values, they know right from wrong, and they must be willing to stand up for what is right. People may laugh, but that is okay. Chief Austin reflects on his past, and he is glad that he had the strength and courage for the choices that he made in his life.

### **9) Chief Austin: Courage**

Chief Austin describes courage as the ability to identify what is right and what is wrong and still be able to stand up for what is right. This can be tough because everyone is telling the person one thing, but that person knows that it is wrong. If that person knowingly does what is wrong anyways, then that person lacks courage.

### **10) Carolyn Sawyer: Caring People**

Carolyn Sawyer encourages students to surround themselves with caring people. If they are around caring people, then they are fine. She also reminds students that the most caring people are not always the most popular people.

### **11) Carolyn Sawyer: Treating Disrespect**

Carolyn Sawyer encourages students to stand up for their rights and especially stand up to those who disrespect them. Her approach is to avoid violence and use one's voice and intelligence when standing up to another. She also advises that students not surround themselves with people that treat them badly.

### **12) Joe Pinner: Caring**

Joe Pinner addresses caring. He claims that caring actually helps the person doing the caring and the person being cared for. He says that it makes one feel good when caring for someone. He also talks about how gangs and other negative things destroy things.

### **13) Joe Pinner: Positive Influences**

Joe Pinner says that if one does not like feeling alone, then find positive influences. He encourages students to get involved in activities such as playing in an orchestra, playing sports, and several other activities. He also reminds students to take time to enjoy the things around them.

### **14) Joe Pinner: Finding Self-Esteem**

Joe Pinner talks about finding self-esteem. He says that not all parents are going to help give their children self-esteem. Therefore, children need to go find self-esteem. He gives several examples where to find self-esteem, such as at church. He also mentions that students should find other people who will help them.

### **15) Harry Dent: Principles**

Harry Dent addresses the question, "What do you do if you work for someone who's doing something wrong?" He states that at a minimum refuse to be a part of the "wrong" thing. He also says that students have the choice whether to turn the wrongdoer in or not. He says that students have to decide their principles, and they need to make up their mind about how they are going to live.

### **16) Marie-Louise Ramsdale: Listening**

Marie-Louise Ramsdale stresses the importance of listening to what people are saying. She says that parents, teachers, and other adults have learned life lessons, and therefore, it is important to listen to them because it can be very beneficial.

### **17) Marie-Louise Ramsdale: Education**

Marie-Louise Ramsdale stresses the importance of higher education. She says that if students do not want to be part of the education system, then they will not get anywhere in life. She encourages students to get some form of higher education whether it is college or a tech school. By attending such schools, students will get ahead in life.

### **18) Marie-Louise Ramsdale: Media Influence**

Music and other media influences can be negative influences according to Marie-Louise Ramsdale. She says that one can choose to be influenced by the media or not. Basketball players, rap stars, and others influence today's children, but students do not have to be influenced by them. It is a choice.

### **19) Harry Dent: 10 Virtues**

Harry Dent gives a list of ten virtues that are important to have. They include: self-discipline, compassion, responsibility, friendship, work diligently, courage, persevere, honest, loyal, and have beliefs and live by them.

**20) Harry Dent: Integrity**

According to Harry Dent, people will make mistakes in life, but they must deal with their personal integrity. He says that they must ask themselves the question, "Did I do wrong?" He encourages students to face the world and admit when they are wrong.

**21) Marie-Louise Ramsdale: Respect: Being Open-Minded**

Marie-Louise Ramsdale advises everyone to listen and be open-minded. She says that students need to give others' point of view much respect. She encourages students to take time and listen so that they will hear a different opinion.

**22) Marie-Louise Ramsdale: Respect: Being Polite**

It is hard to respect people that do not respect her, according to Marie-Louise Ramsdale. She warns others to watch what they say when others disrespect them. She encourages them to be polite because one can never go wrong with politeness.

**23) Marie-Louise Ramsdale: Criticism**

Marie-Louise Ramsdale encourages students to be around people that make them feel good about themselves. She believes that mean and negative comments can be beneficial. People will give constructive criticism, which can be positive, but at other times, their comments are destructive, and they need to be ignored.

**24) Bishop John Hurst Adams: Compassion**

Bishop Adams describes two types of love: tender loving care and tough love. Tender loving care is when someone is caring and empathetic. Tough love is when stern measures are taken, but they are stern out of love for the person.

**25) Rick Henry: Courage**

Rick Henry gives an example of the most courageous person he knows. He believes that the most courageous kid is one who was cut from the basketball team, and yet that kid continues to pursue their dream. He uses Michael Jordan as an example because Jordan was cut from the basketball team when he was younger.

**26) Rick Henry: Being Courageous**

Rick Henry encourages students to be willing to take a chance on things that can help benefit them as a person. For example, in a decision whether to take an easy course or a tough course, he encourages students to take the tough course because it will be more beneficial.



**27) Coach Eddie Fogler: Discipline**

Coach Eddie Fogler addresses discipline in a basketball team. He says that each person has to be disciplined. There cannot be one without discipline, or the entire team will suffer. Problems arise when some are more concerned about others than their own self-discipline, and other problems occur when some are more concerned with self-recognition than with the team.

**28) Kelly G. McCalla: Dependability**

Kelly G. McCalla gives examples of people who we depend on and what would happen if they were not dependable. She says that firemen, doctors, and teachers have to be dependable. Everyone has to be dependable in order to do his or her very best at a job.