



BBB AKRON LAWS OF LIFE ESSAY CONTEST **SPECIAL THEME**

HONORING AUTHORITY

High-character people respect boundaries for behavior.

They help shape and then abide by the legitimate regulations and boundaries established by legitimate authorities and strive to live within those boundaries for the betterment of all. They understand that laws and rules apply to them, not just others. They expect the same of those around them; when others violate laws, rules, or ethics, they take wise action to justly hold them accountable.

Observable virtues: dutiful, law-abiding, civil

Typical examples include:

- People make every effort to follow the directives of their supervisors.
- People operate within the boundaries of the policies and procedures.
- People honor the office even if they do not care for the office-holder.

We ask students to reflect on what **HONORING AUTHORITY** means to them, why it is an important Law of Life, how they learned this trait, and how they have changed their behavior to live up to that law. Below are some potentially helpful prompts:

- ✓ Reflect on the evolution of your understanding of authority and respect for it. **What experiences or lessons have contributed to this growth?**
- ✓ Discuss the importance of respecting teachers and school administrators. **How does honoring authority in an educational setting contribute to a positive learning environment?**
- ✓ Analyze the potential consequences of not honoring authority in various contexts such as family, school, workplace, and society at large. **What impact does disrespecting authority have on individuals and communities?**
- ✓ Examine the relevance of honoring authority in today's world. **How has the perception of authority changed over time, especially with the influence of technology and social media?**
- ✓ Or, you may opt to do the opposite and describe a time when you disagreed with an authority figure. **How did you handle the situation, and what did you learn about the importance of honoring authority?**

Students are not required to write about this topic, however, the best essay on **HONORING AUTHORITY** will be awarded \$500!



INSPIRING ETHICAL CHAMPIONS OF TOMORROW