

RESOLUTIONS FOR OTHERS

Resolutions are a wonderful thing, if kept, - which is a whole other matter. However, even if they are not, resolving to correct oneself in some matter shows good will, at least. The New Year is the traditional time for making resolutions, a time for new beginnings.

Usually, others can see better than we ourselves as to where we need to change. I am sure that our friends could tell us what it is about us that irritates them. However, we do not make it a point to ask others what our New Year's resolutions ought to be. Perhaps, we should. Yet, I wonder how many would actually feel free enough to tell us.

I have some suggestions for anyone who wishes to make them their own.

Resolution: When greeting someone, do not ask them about their health unless you actually want to know and are ready to listen to the response. Shaking one's hand, asking, "How are you?" and walking away does not convey a sense of caring about one's welfare.

Resolution: When sharing information with someone, do not use the phrase, "You know." Why would you think it necessary to tell a person something that they already know?

Resolution: Individuals changing lanes when driving a car might think to turn on their directional signals before starting into the other lane. If you have already crossed the center line, you need not turn on your directionals just to let others know that your car has them. Besides, the person behind you is well aware of your intending to change lanes by virtue of the fact that you are already half-way there.

Resolution: Those selling medications on television could give their prospective customers credit for some intelligence. One can understand the need to list the side effects of a particular medication that will otherwise correct an ailment. But, please, after hearing that a person might suffer drowsiness, diarrhea, shortness of breath, numbness in their extremities, terrible headaches, frequent nose bleeds, or foaming at the mouth, I am offended by the encouragement to purchase the product just so that I "can be myself." And, it would be nice if they slowed down when going through such a list of possible consequences of a particular medicinal product.

Resolution: Those who produce television programs might more appropriately prioritize their programming. Try as I might, I cannot understand why I should "call now" in order to purchase a ladder that fits into the palm of my hand but can reach 10 feet and support 200 pounds, when I am told that I will have to wait a half hour in order to get the news about an escaped convict who could be in my neighborhood. After all, the infomercial has already been aired umpteen dozen times and will, most likely, be on for the rest of my life. The convict will not be around that long.

One twelfth of the New Year is almost gone. However, it is never too late to make a resolution. Would you like me to help you with yours? No doubt, there are many of you who could help me with mine.