
Staff-Corpsmember Relationships

Staff-Corpsmember relationships are fundamentally teacher-student relationships with the important added ingredient of personal concern.

Spontaneous, honest back-and-forth personal communication and relationships are essential.

However——

1. Staff members should not discuss interpersonal staff problems in the presence of Corpsmembers, nor may they date Corpsmembers.
2. Staff members should keep the respect of Corpsmembers by maintaining a serious workmanlike attitude and by avoiding becoming "One of the boys."
3. Corpsmembers should be encouraged to address staff members.
4. Visits of Corpsmembers to homes of staff members should be governed by center regulations.
5. Staff members should always address Corpsmembers with respect, and maintain the necessary personal touch by clearly showing interest and regard for Corpsmembers' problems and aspirations.

The fact that Job Corps is a full-time residential program and that many of these youth come from families which lacked wholesome adult supervision, means that the center staff has a total responsibility for the health, welfare, education and safety of the Corpsmembers. This responsibility includes supervision of the youngster both on and off the center.

Staff members can use both rewards and disciplinary measures to favorably influence the behavior of Corpsmembers. However, rewards should predominate.

Good performance can be reinforced by passes, promotions, living allowance increases, and by commendations—simply by telling Corpsmembers that they are doing well.