

responsibility:

knowing and doing what is expected of me

Responsibility = Reliability

Responsibility *n* 1: the quality of being responsible, answerable, or liable 2: that for which a person is answerable 3: dependableness, generally due to good judgment

Responsibility is recognizing what tasks are your duty to complete and carrying them out with the same timeliness and care as if the one to whom your are answerable were watching over your shoulder.

A responsible person does not wait for a to-do list to be handed to him every morning to know what his daily assignments are. He knows his role in life and determines what he needs to accomplish.

Decision making is at the heart of responsibility. To be responsible is to make the decision, execute the decision, and to answer for the decision.

Responsibility is not just doing what needs to be done. Responsibility is also giving account for what has or has not been done. It is being accountable for the results of your decision. Responsibility is the character quality of self-government, self-motivation, and self-accountability.

A healthy sense of responsibility or lack thereof will significantly affect your success.

Be a person everyone can rely on.



Often seen as a burden, responsibility, is actually a great source of power and success. Responsibility can be used as a tool to better our lives one step at a time. When we have the determination to accomplish tasks and goals on our own, we not only better our lives, but also strengthen the lives of those around us by showing initiative and setting a good example.

Are you being a good role model? Ask yourself these questions:

- *Am I reliable and dependable?
- *Do I fulfill my obligations?
- *Am I accountable for my actions?
- *Do I use good judgment?

“You can’t escape the responsibility of tomorrow by avoiding it today.”

(Abraham Lincoln)

“No one can accept responsibility in the world unless he takes it first on his own doorstep.”

(Clio F. Craig)

responsibility vs. unreliability

Responsibility is knowing within one’s self what needs to be done, and doing it. Responsible people understand and fulfill their duties that arise from their roles as individuals, and as part of the family, community, and work place.

Responsibility is:

Keeping your promises

Not making excuses

Working to the best of your ability

Making things right when you do wrong

Knowing and doing your duty

Topeka City of Character
700 S.W. Jackson, Suite 807
Topeka, Kansas 66603

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 8073
Topeka, KS 66608

Phone: 785-233-3699
Fax: 785-232-3498
E-mail: tcoc@sbcglobal.net

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TOPEKA, KS
PERMIT NO. 268



Topeka City of Character September 2005

From the coordinator:

One of the most important character qualities my parents instilled in me throughout childhood was responsibility. They taught me that not only do my actions affect me and my future, but also that of the people I love and care about around me. Without being responsible for our families, they would not have the pillar of strength to depend and rely on.

The biggest gift we can give to our children is to teach them how good

character will bring them joy and success. When a family member, friend, neighbor, or co-worker faces a challenge, our responsibility to do the right thing can help them overcome obstacles and move forward in their lives. When we are responsible for others, we find that in our times of need, we have that same support available to us.

*Dawn Wright,
Topeka City of Character
Coordinator*

**Sponsor of
September's Character
Quality:
Responsibility**



The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.
Manufacturing Plant of Topeka

Topeka City of Character's Vision:

The City of Topeka will become a community of good character where people work together to ensure that individuals and families are strong, homes and streets are safe, education is effective, business is productive, and citizens care for one another.

**If you would like to be a character
quality sponsor, call Dawn at
785-233-3699**

TCOC Council Members

**Ed Klumpp, Chair
Kay Ireland, Vice Chair
Joan Rucker, Treasurer
Tam Powell, Secretary
Barry Feaker
Cecil Washington
Richard Barta
Matt Zielsdorf
Terry Diebolt
Rosanne Haberman
David Bevens
Michelle Voth
Jason Crawford**

TCOC Staff

**Dawn Wright, Coordinator
Jenny McCaslin,
Administrative Assistant**

Good character is the key to success!