

17 Community Service Training

Issue/Problem

This proposal relates somewhat back to Proposal 14 – Local Pride and Accountability in that it also promotes a “sense of community” among the people in your town, county or city. In this case, at a minimum We will be seeking to raise the bar of Civil Responsibility and various forms of Community Service (CS) participation.

For the Youngest Generation

In its simplest form students in elementary, middle, and high school will learn about the Civil Responsibility of Community Service and what they can do within their own neighborhoods with a just little of their time to make their locality a better place to live – things as simple as not throwing trash out the car window. Some may think these simple things, but it is where the seeds of civil accountability (or not) are planted. Again simply by utilizing the national school system as a public communication vehicle We will introduce the concepts and first experiences of CS to the youngest generation.

This is a simple expansion of the types of public service awareness that is learned in the Cub and Boy Scouts, and in the Brownies and Girl Scouts which have long promoted such awareness and involvement in the youngest generation.

Of course elementary school age children would not be out doing CS projects around their local area, but as they get older could be called upon to help in their local community when needed.

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In many cases such common public communication programs would increase the general population’s awareness of Local community service and public support groups. And as a natural result of such communication some people will be motivated to active involvement in those groups – not to be a leader, but to be another set of helping hands which is the most needed resource in the first place.

This improved awareness will help people to begin to develop an actual “community connection” with neighbors in good times so that in the event of local disasters like severe storms and/or flooding it would be easier for people to connect and be supportive of each other, and better organized to react more effectively. We know all too well how important community support coordination is after watching the Katrina disaster and the slow response from the government at all levels. Neighbors need to be willing and able to help each other, and not be shy or afraid to seek help when they need it — to know that

other people nearby care about them.

Serving a More Complex Consideration

Again, looking back to Proposal 14 – Local Pride and Accountability the requirement to be overviewed below is an extension of the Local Accountability concept, as well as tying directly into Proposal 7 – the U.S. Re-Employment System. It is a more complex Community Service ‘consideration’ within the National System that relates to Local people supporting the part and full time employment needs of businesses, both small and large within their geographic area.

I will keep this proposal fairly brief. My intent here is mainly to present several points and examples of how this practical extension of the Community Service concept would help to address other “local issues” — nationwide.

- Businesses in many communities across the nation experience problems finding part-time, full time, and seasonal employees when in reality there are people quite capable of filling those jobs that are available, but not working. They are not working due to lack of motivation (laziness), not sure where the jobs are, don’t really need the money, selling drugs covers their needs, etc.
- And currently some employers are giving the jobs to lower wage Illegal Occupants (IOs). This latter reason will become far less of a problem as We begin the repatriation of IOs back to their home countries. As that happens, non-working Americans of all ages will be needed to fill any type of job they can in order to support local businesses. This will confront the notion that Americans do not want to do certain types of jobs — it is the dull rhetoric used as an “excuse” to let IOs to continue to exist in our communities.
- There are various jobs in communities all over the country that could be easily be staffed by high school students in grades 9 to 12, college students, and adults twenty-something to senior citizens that are technically available for part-time, possibly even full time work. Positions staffed to help local businesses to serve their Local community — helping businesses to survive and to grow providing more jobs.

High schools across the nation could implement programs that make 12th and 11th grade students available to support part-time and seasonal job requirements of local businesses. In areas hardest hit for workers, students could be all but required to support local businesses part-time, giving them work experience, some income, and doing their part to help their own community and local economy. This is not forced labor, it is supporting the community for everyone’s benefit.

Consider, that with the High School drop-out rate reaching a staggering and ridiculous 25% — all those idle hands must be guided toward ‘good’ work. Since they are not currently communities are suffering and will continue to suffer the consequences. Read the local paper for all the examples of that you want.

- There needs to be an organized, standardized facility that the local businesses can utilize to obtain such staffing for their business – from that local ‘citizen’ labor pool. The U.S. Re-Employment System will help facilitate this requirement and will work with county/city/town employment services to identify part and full time, as well as seasonal job openings to be filled.
- Further, with the coming of Health Care Insurance for ALL Americans, it will in many cases be tied to employment. We will not be allowing Americans to sit on their ‘butts’ if they are physically capable of working and at least partially supporting themselves. Unemployment benefits, including Health Care coverage will be directly dependent upon a person’s active and consistent involvement in re-training and ‘filling’ any part-time to full time positions they are capable of performing while seeking viable full time employment – to the greatest extent possible. No more free rides on the tax-payers!
- IF, things are moving properly with the implementation of other proposals in An American Agenda, We will begin to see a decline in the illegal Drug Trade starting in 2009, as well as reduced Gang activity.

City and County governments will need to be guiding Americans that have been “recycled” through the Re-Employment System into public works programs that will be funded to start rebuilding America’s crumbling infrastructure such as bridges and roads. Also to help demolish old buildings and clean-up the inner cities creating open areas and refurbishing homes. People will be working to improve living conditions in their own communities and putting money back into the local economy.

That last point will be a key component in transforming the National System from our current and failing Eternal Growth-based model toward the Maintenance-based Economic model discussed earlier.

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The overall point being made here is that local businesses need to be better supported by the community they are trying to serve. Under the headings of Civil Responsibility and Community Service local citizens with some time on their hands need to consider making themselves available on an as needed basis

to fill necessary job requirements.

There is a group of people in every locality that could step up and allow themselves to be on-call to fill such positions. This overall concept needs to be developed and used to put Americans young and old to work at whatever their community needs them to do. Think about it.

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