

4-Way Test and Me by India Tucker

I never heard of the four-way test before. The questions are: "Is It true?", "Is It fair?", "Will It build goodwill?", and "Will It be beneficial to all concerned?". The four-way test is something you should ask yourself every day. I have been in a lot of situations where I should've used the four-way test, but I didn't.

Is it the truth? In elementary school I was the nicest person ever. Then I came to Park View Middle School. The people I started hanging around changed me. They were bad influences on me. I lied to people, got into a lot of fights, but mostly I got into drama like boyfriend drama and girl drama. The four-way test would have been a good way to help me with my situations and problems.

Is it fair? When I changed, it wasn't fair to my friends, family and most importantly myself. I lost a lot of friends because I changed and it wasn't their fault, it was mine. I got into a lot of trouble because I was talking back to people and because I had an attitude problem. My parents didn't understand what was going on with me. I did a lot of things that weren't fair to other people because I wanted to fit in. If I had taken the 4-way test I would have made a better choice.

Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Many times when we make a tough decision, it's easy to forget that despite our differences, we are all similar. We are all working towards a common goal, some of us are just trying to make it in this muddled

world. It's important to consider the feelings of others and build strong connections. I always try to help build on my relationships with my peers by talking to them and most importantly, listening to their concerns. Helping my peers solve their problems helps make them feel better and also allows me feel good about myself too.

Will it be beneficial to all concerned? In the end, we want everyone to be happy. Happiness is key to running a workplace, a household, or even a classroom. I always like to keep the happiness of others in my mind as I make important decisions. I will particularly use this question in the future to ensure I am making the right choice for others as well as myself.

The 4- way test is a helpful tool for anyone to use. People of any age will benefit from making smart decisions for themselves and everyone that is involved in the decision. The 4- way test can be used in every situation. Rotary should be proud to have this valuable decision-making model that has been tested by time and many people.