

“Personal Accountability”

By: Jack Muellerleile

“Personal Accountability” is the companion of position power...for those willing to accept it. Too many in positions of power do everything possible to escape its heavy burden. They revel in the power but cringe when facing the accountability.

The cry, “It’s not my fault!” has become legendary in too many of our boardrooms, our schools, our courts, our seats of government. Cowardice coexists with cunning and the pursuit of instant gratification. At least that is what a thinking person must deduce from the news reports we are provided.

Yet in the everyday lives of the overwhelming majority of our citizenry, personal accountability is a constant companion. It accompanies the mother at home and in the workplace; the father as he persists in providing for his family; the medical community as it endeavors to maintain our health; the members of the police agencies that serve and protect us; the fire fighters who rescue us; and the armed forces that operate in harm’s way the ensure our liberties.

A great chasm separates the ‘newsworthy’ from the ‘noteworthy’ that comprise the overwhelming majority of our citizenry (i.e. those who work hard every day as opposed to those who hardly work every day).

Employers, lenders, investors nearly all seek out people who:

- Accept ‘personal accountability’;
- Do not run from difficulties;
- Are not fearful of making mistakes;
- Can not be defeated by gossip or rumor;
- Always step up again after being knocked down;
- Are reliable;
- Admit their mistakes and do not repeat them;
- Regularly achieve the objectives especially after occasionally missing one or two;
- Value others more than self; and
- Are relentless in pursuit of the objective.

Why? Because these folks will be tomorrow’s leaders.