

## The Beta Way

### Urbane in deportment...

"We must be *urbane* in deportment. Yes, this word means "like a city-dweller" and derives from the Latin word *urbs* which means "city" – like the Greek word *polis* from which we get the words "polite" and "police." These words are not a slighting of the agricultural world, but rather express the often unnoticed fact that men who live together – as in a city – must be orderly, and organized. The city life requires a degree of cooperation much higher than that needed by the relatively independent life" on the land" in the fields and forests. The ancient Greeks and Romans observed this very quickly, and the words bear this out, even when urban dwellers are no longer urbane.

### Courteous in expression...

"We must be *courteous* in expression. The word, with its connotation of "as one acts in the presence of royalty" has been almost forgotten in our modern world. Even in countries where there is royalty, the news of those personages is often not courteous. Perhaps the king is bad; he should be admonished, but even then the fact that he is king should not be overlooked. Indeed, all the more reason to admonish in a courtly, courteous manner. But in the democratic fields, where the word "king" was once a fighting word, it is forgotten that the word "democracy" actually puts a crown on every head. Thus, courtesy demands that we show a kind of regal respect for everyone with whom we may meet.

### Steadfast in friendship

We must be *steadfast* in friendship. This word means "fastened or fixed in its place." But where is the place of friendship to be fastened? It is in the heart. Remember this word friendship here is used with respect to a brother's "[interaction] with mankind" – we are not speaking of that specific friendship of brotherhood in our fraternity. If we commit ourselves to friendship with each other, no less are we obliged to "fasten friendship to its place" in our hearts with those we meet in our [interaction] with mankind.

## Bystander Intervention Story

This is a story about 4 people named, **EVERYBODY, SOMEBODY, ANYBODY, AND NOBODY**. There was an important job to be done and **EVERYBODY** was asked to do it. **EVERYBODY** was sure **SOMEBODY** would do it. **ANYBODY** could have done it, but **NOBODY** did it. **SOMEBODY** got angry about that because it was **EVERYBODY'S** job. **EVERYBODY** thought **ANYBODY** could do it, but **NOBODY** realized that **EVERYBODY** wouldn't do it. It ended up that **EVERYBODY** blamed **SOMEBODY** when **NOBODY** did what **ANYBODY** could have done