

EKTIMIS.com Quote of the Month

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“Perfection is not a standard, but the pursuit of perfection is; respect has a lot to do with standards.”

“Perfection” — a state of flawlessness. By this definition, very few things in life are perfect. And without a doubt, no one (person) is perfect. We all have our faults and weaknesses. An understanding of this reality can lead to different attitudes—that is, mindset—in different situations in life for many people.

In certain situations, some people may choose the status quo; after all, if everyone else is doing “it,” then “it” must be okay and thus good enough.

In other situations, some people may choose the undesired. If “it” has a devilish or sub-par appeal and “it” appears easy, why not try “it”?

Yet in other situations, a few people may choose to challenge themselves; the status quo may just not be good enough. If everyone is doing “it” one way, then perhaps “it” can be done another way—a better way.

Each of the three aforementioned attitudes (mindsets) establishes a standard which determines the nature of an outcome. The concept of respect functions similarly. Our attitude guides the method and degree to which we command respect and it guides the method and degree to which we show respect.

On the matter of respect it is always better to reject the status quo and choose a higher standard. It may not always be as much of a challenge as it might seem.

About the Author



Niyi Taiwo is the founder of EKTIMIS and the lead editor for the EKTIMIS eLibrary articles. He is the author of several books, including the EKTIMIS Top Ten Laws series. He is a continuous improvement expert with over 21 years of industry experience – operational, management and consulting. He has been studying the topic of respect since 2004. He holds an undergraduate degree from WPI and a master’s degree from RPI. He is a certified Lean Expert and an ASQ-certified Six Sigma Black Belt.