

Dr. Katie Peters

2023 Ohio District 2

Teacher of the Year



TikTok = @kpintoledo

Dr. Katie Peters is an educator, author, adjunct instructor at the University of Findlay, and Director of Communications at Washington Local Schools in Toledo, Ohio. With 22 years of experience in teaching and a Doctorate in Empathy Education, KP designs and presents workshops nationally, focusing on the implementation of empathy as the most important framework for all we do.

The author of *Lessons from a Late-Bloomer* (2017), Dr. Peters' work has been highlighted in *The Associated Press*, *Parent Magazine*, *Newsweek*, as well as featured on *the Today Show*. KP gave a Tedx Talk in 2018 and has been the Keynote Speaker for charities, educational conferences and many business organizations.

She was named the ***2023 Ohio District 2 Teacher of the Year***, the ***2012 NW Ohio Teacher of the Year*** and inexplicably had her TikTok go viral in 2022.

In all spaces, KP shares her message of staying positive, laughing out loud and, most importantly, showing profound empathy in all that you do.



Sticks and Stones









EMPATHY TRAINING REQUIREMENTS:

COUNSELORS

DOCTORS

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

NURSES

PSYCHOLOGISTS

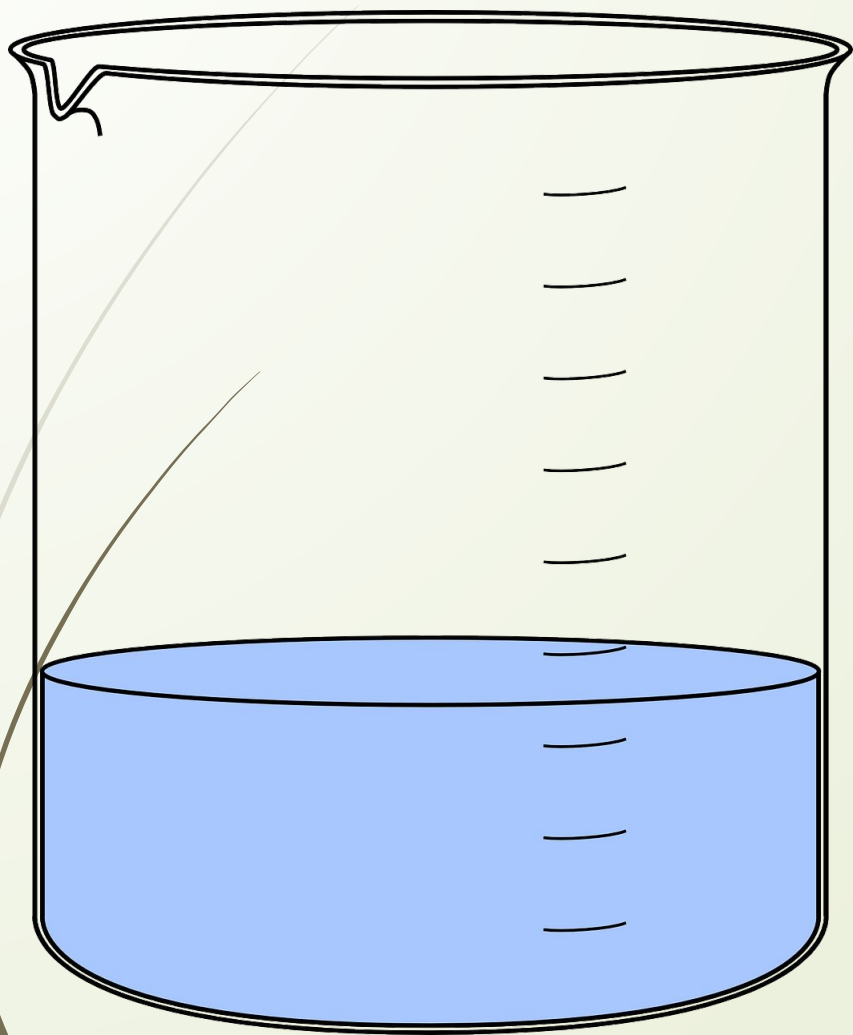
SOCIAL WORK

THEOLOGY/PASTORS





December
12th, 2003



PROTECT
YOUR
Energy

The High Cost of Education Budget Cuts

What happens when lawmakers opt for tax cuts over education investments? Students across the nation pay a very steep price.

State General Funding Per Student Below 2008 in at Least 12 States

Percent change in state formula funding* per student, in fiscal years 2008-2018



POLS NOT HOT FOR ARMED TEACHERS

Classroom weapon ban part of Albany gun control package

BY KENNETH LOVETT
NEWS ALBANY BUREAU CHIEF

ALBANY — New York would ban teachers from carrying guns in school under a broad gun control package set to pass the Legislature on Tuesday.

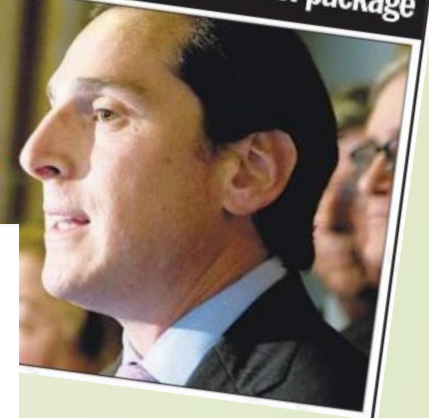
Following the 2018 Parkland, Fla., school shooting, President Trump and the NRA called for teachers and school staff to be armed.

Vice News recently reported that at least 400 districts across the country adopted policies to allow it.

New York wants to go the other way.

Right now under New York law, if a district decides

Teachers I talk to just want to teach.



Most states fail education obligations to special needs students: So, what else is new?

For children with disabilities, a public school education should not be this difficult to have access to.

John M. McLaughlin Opinion contributor

Published 5:00 a.m. ET Aug. 8, 2020 | Updated 9:44 a.m. ET Aug. 10, 2020

Central Indiana teacher shortage getting worse



Three-quarters of primary children to lack access to school mental health teams

Teacher shortage looms over Detroit

On first day of school, Bay Area districts still seeking teachers

Oklahoma Teacher Shortage Is Worsening, Administrators Say

Teacher shortages affecting every state as 2017-18 school year begins

Colorado teacher shortage edges crisis in rural towns



ALL EVIL HAS
TO DO TO WIN-
IS CONVINCE
YOU THAT IT'S
IN CHARGE

katiepeters.org



“Kids are different.”

“Kids don’t care.”

**“Kids don’t want to
learn.”**

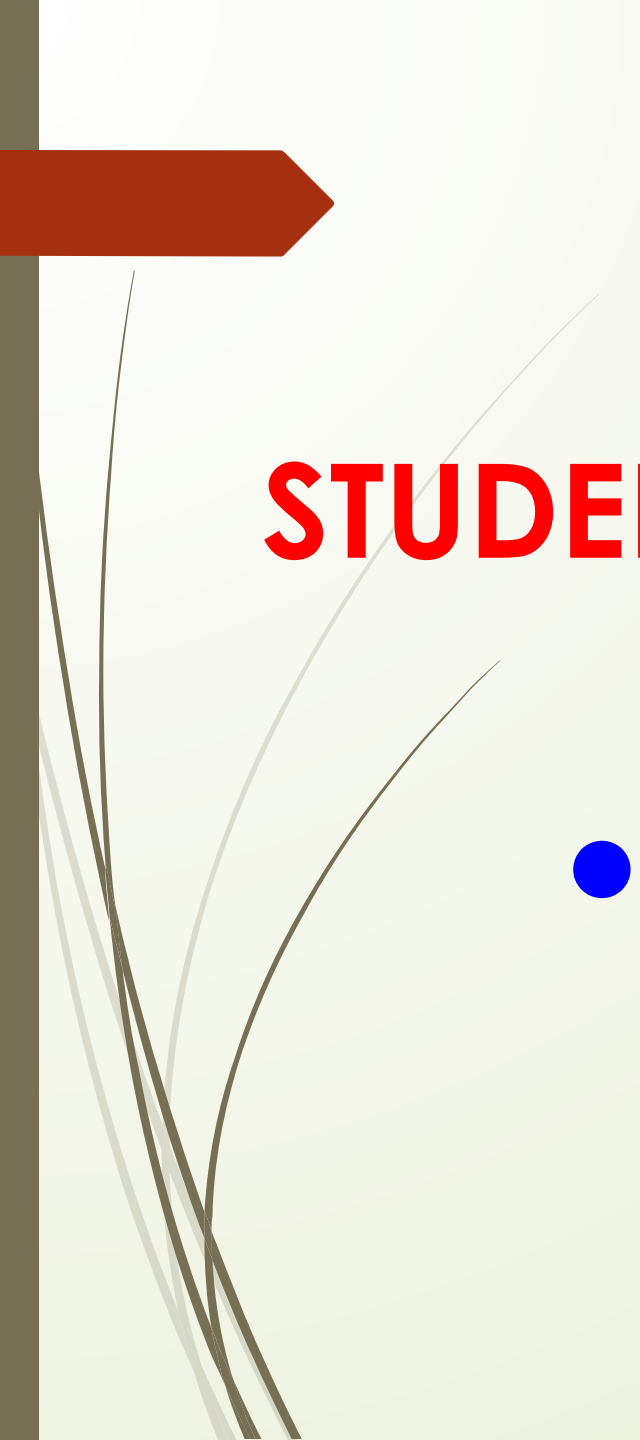






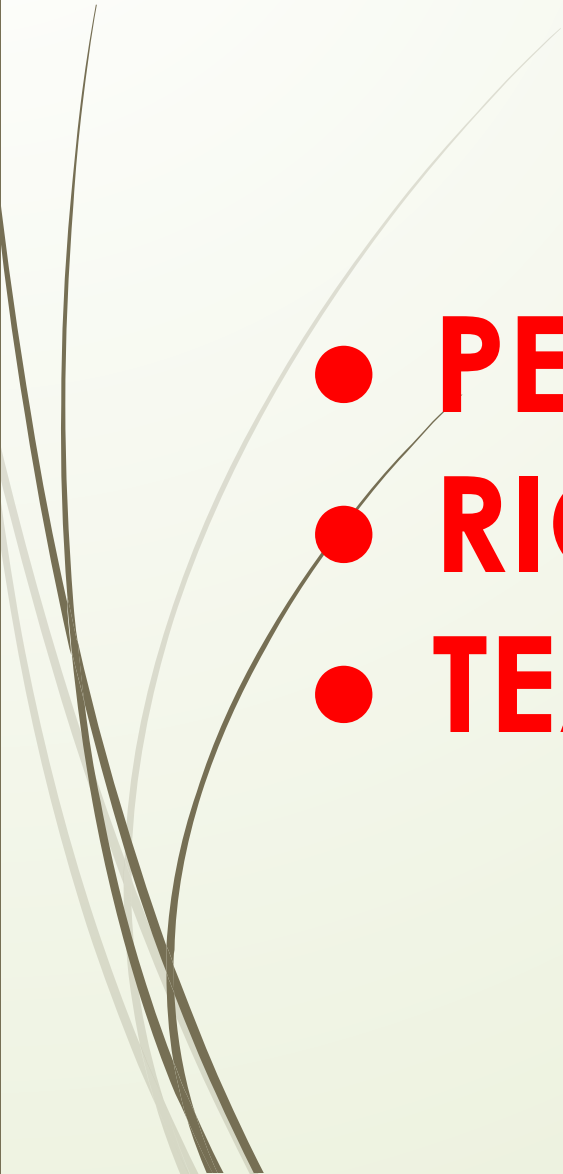
PEOPLE DONT QUIT JOBS.

- **CO-WORKERS**
- **ENVIRONMENTS**
 - **BOSSES**



STUDENTS DON'T QUIT ON SCHOOL.

- **SOCIAL INCLUSION**
- **RIGID RULES/ REWARDS**
 - **TEACHERS**

- 
- 
- 
- **PEERS**
 - **RIGID RULES**
 - **TEACHERS**

- **CO-WORKERS**
- **ENVIRONMENTS**
- **BOSSES**

We aren't teaching the right things.

Harvard University Study: 2021

- 10,000 students between ages of 12-19
- 'caring for others' vs 'achieving at a high level.'



- 94% agreed with the statement '***My parents are prouder if I get good grades in my classes than if I'm a caring community member.***'

The lowest form of
knowledge is

opinion

The highest form of
knowledge is

empathy





**What I
Ordered**



**What I
Ordered**

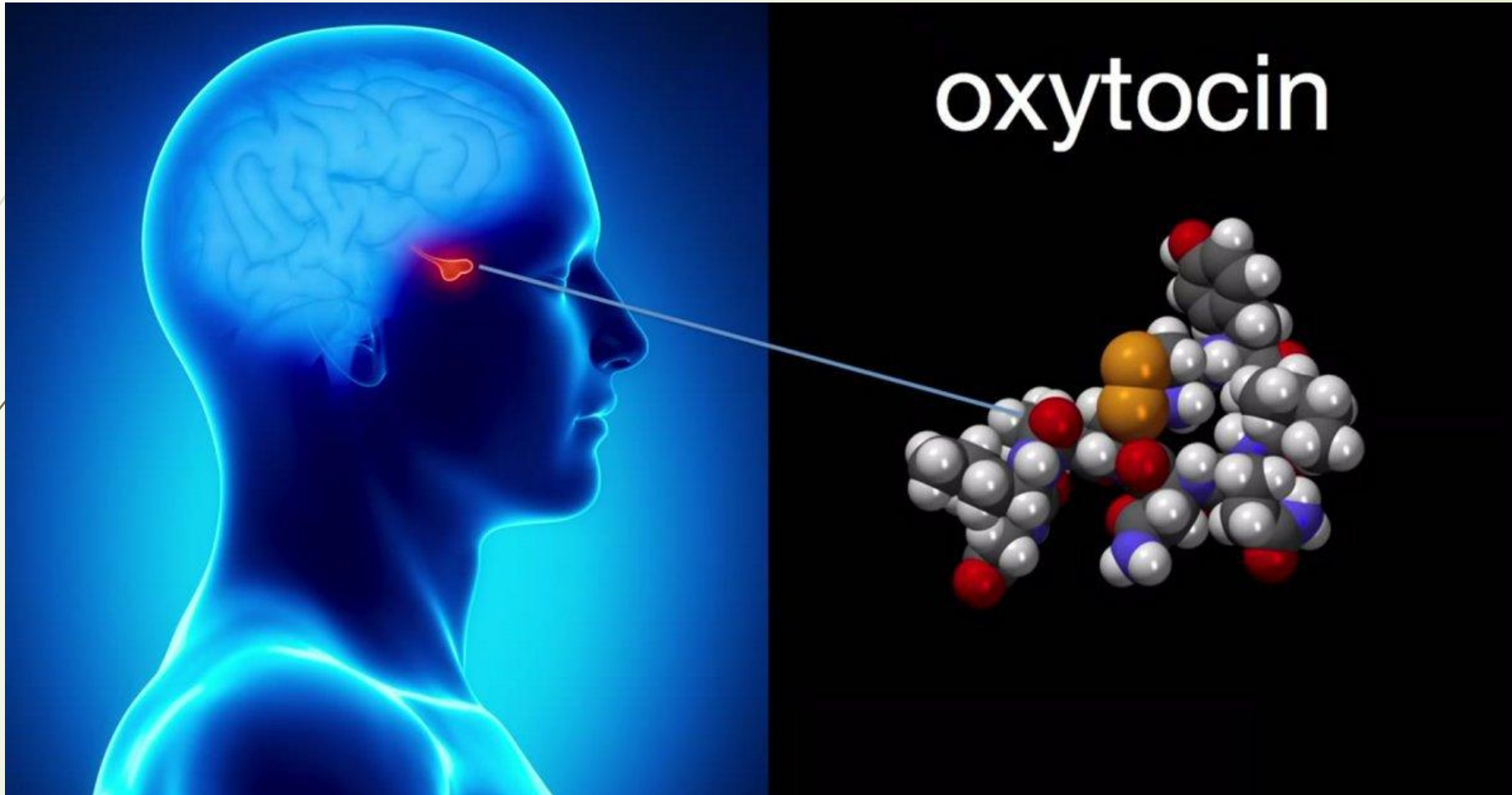


What I Got

Stronger Emotional Bonds = Odds of Survival



WHAT DOES KINDNESS DO FOR THE BODY?





healthy.pregnancy

This is the first MRI of a mother kissing her baby.
Her kiss has caused a chemical reaction in her
baby's brain that released a burst of oxytocin (a
hormone that produces feelings of affection and
attachment). ♥ It's an MRI of #love! ♥

IG:SEEKTHEBEYON



MARITAL CONFLICT RELATIONS AND CORONARY ARTERY CALCIFICATION STUDY

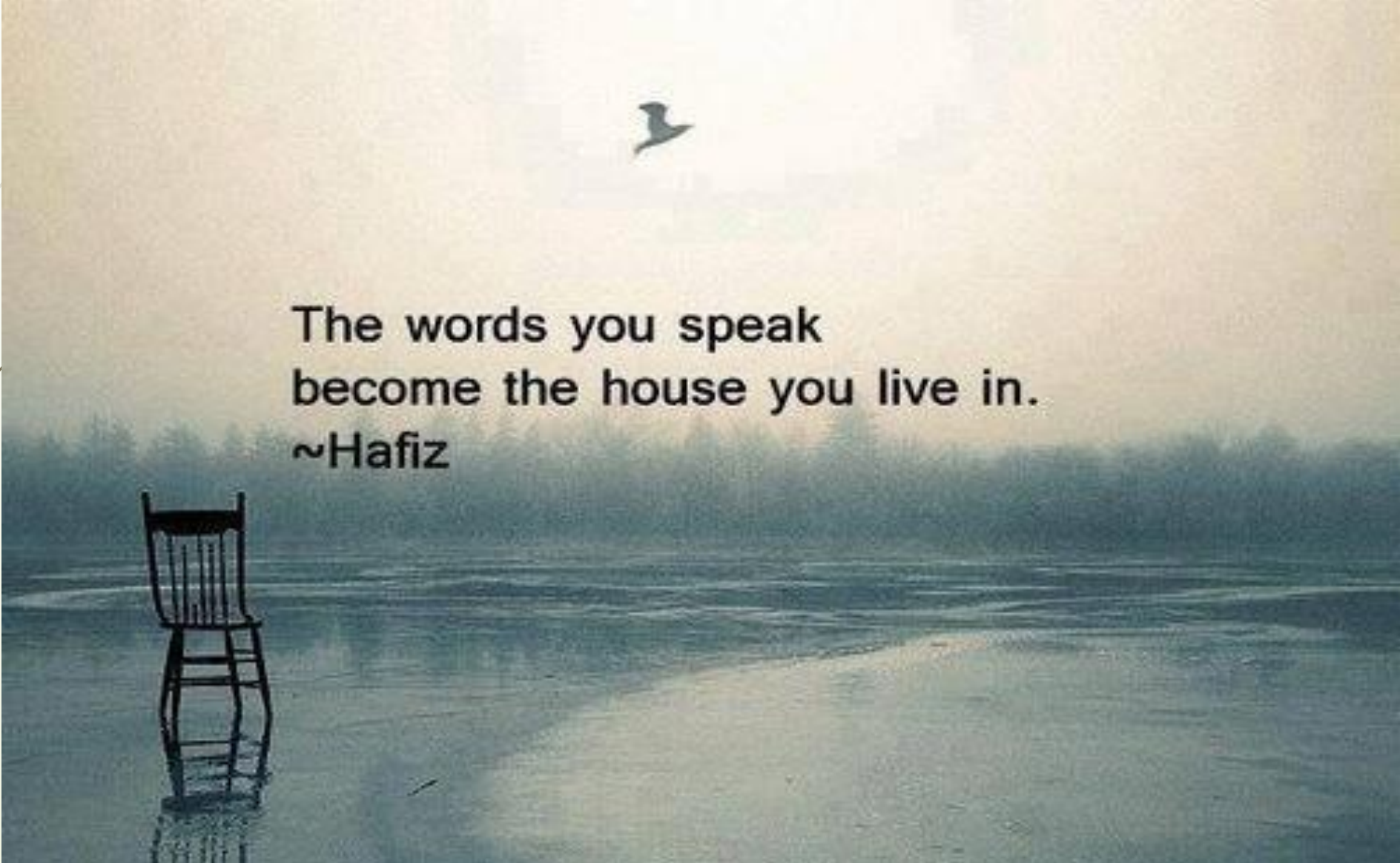
Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology



Nearly 70%



WHAT DOES KINDNESS DO FOR THE MIND?

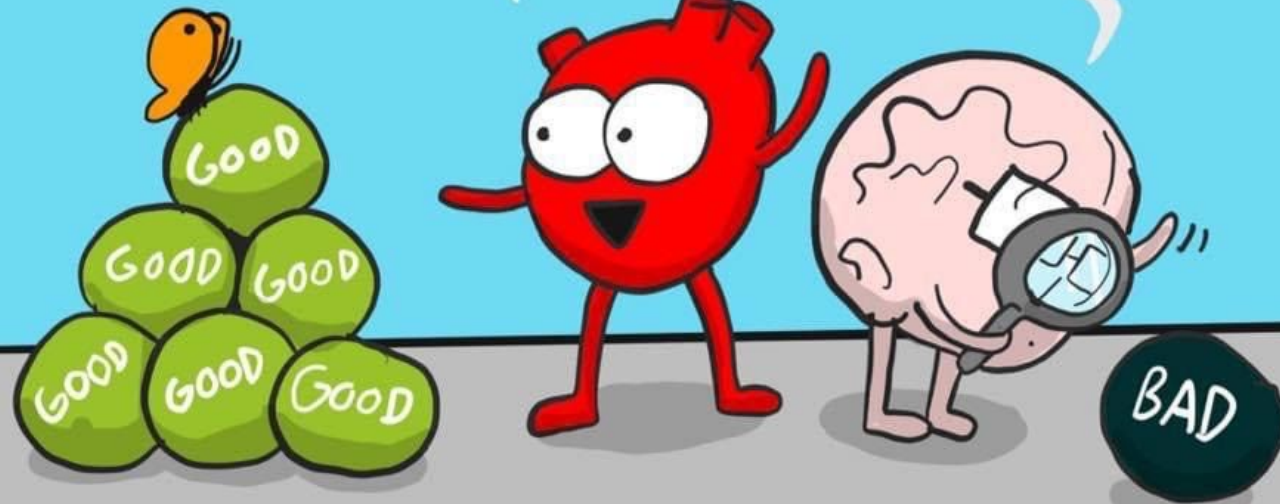
A painting of a wooden chair on a beach. The chair is in the foreground, facing away from the viewer towards the ocean. The beach is sandy and the water is calm. In the distance, there is a line of trees. A seagull is flying in the sky above the chair. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

The words you speak
become the house you live in.
~Hafiz



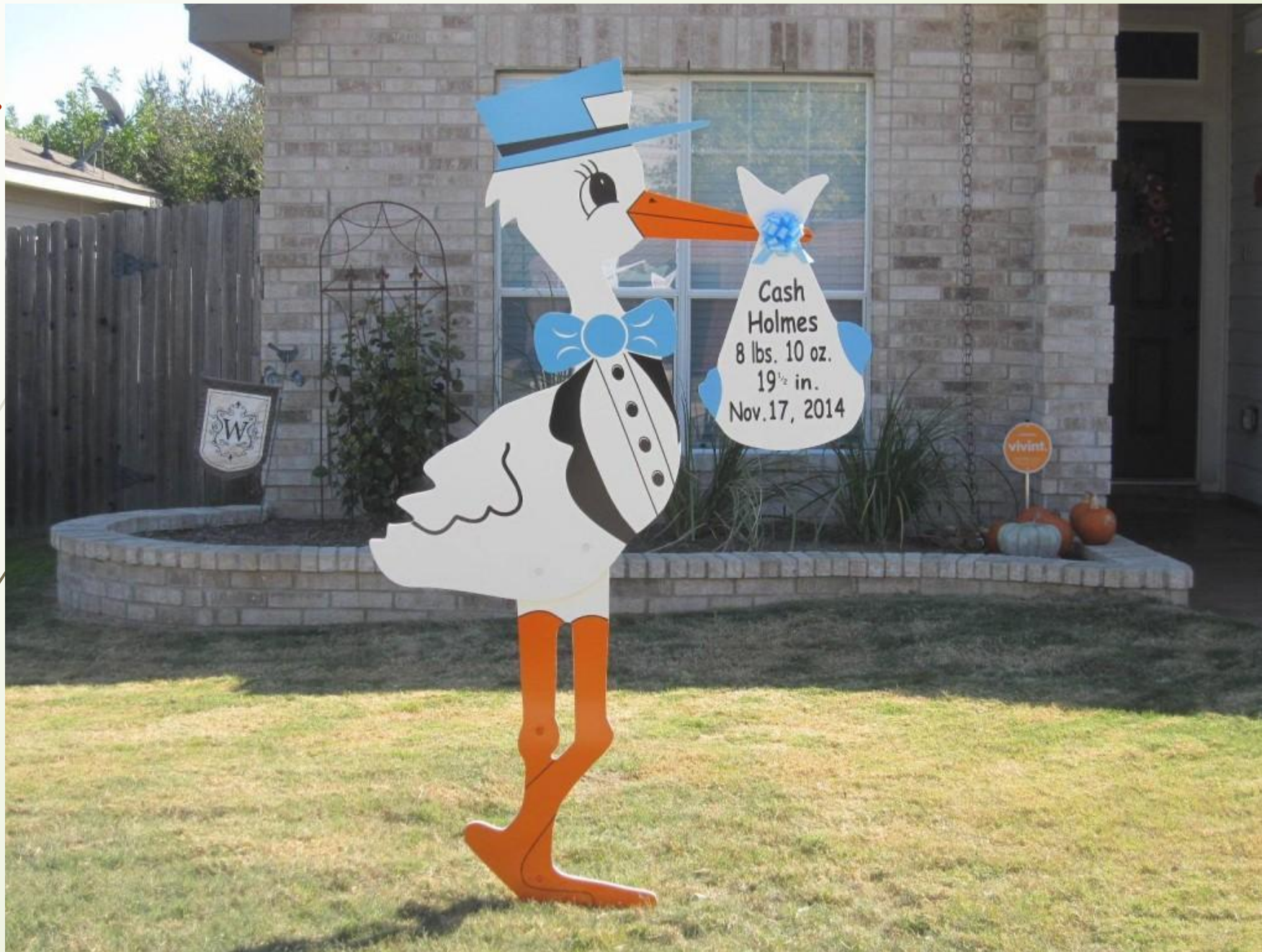
Brain,
LOOK!

Not NOW!
Can't you see
I'm BUSY?!



© theAwkwardYeti









stay together forever no matter what happens or what
the person did to you. I feel the exact same way.
However, there are many people that lack the ability to
forgive someone for the sins they've committed. I believe
that everyone deserves another chance no matter what
they've done, just like the quote from the diary of Anne Frank
"Everyone is good at heart." If someone can truly say
they're sorry and mean it, they most likely have learned
their lesson and deserve another chance. Anyway, that
whole topic was to tell you how much respect I have
for you morally. I wish that more people could think

...you to come. I would mail them to you
In conclusion, I want to let you know that
if ever in your life you regret the path you've
chosen or feel that you haven't made a difference in
any way, You Have! You've created a huge impact
on my life alone, and have given me ^{so} much to think
about in the years to come. Not to mention how many
others you've helped. You are and always will be a go
person. You'll always hold a special place in my heart.

Love,
Jason K. Kraits C/O '05

P.S. Please don't beat me
up for making this one big
paragraph! :D
LOL



WHAT DOES IT DO FOR THE SOUL?





WALNUT OR MARIGOLD?



ORIGINAL ARTICLE: JENNIFER GONZALEZ
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mRCp8Gg4wmo>



Toxic Positivity or
Informed Optimism?

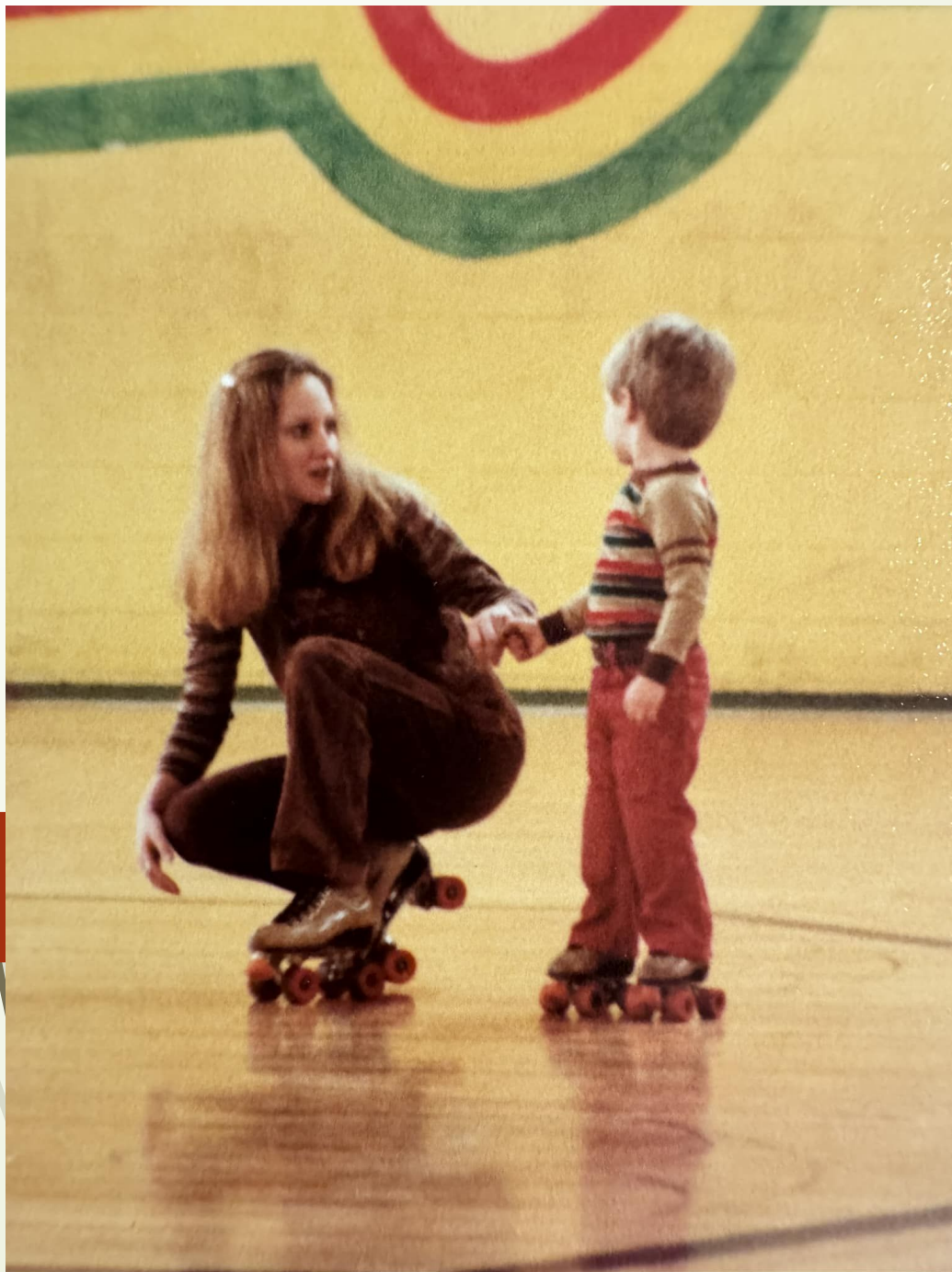


**KINDNESS TAKES TREMENDOUS SELF-DISCIPLINE
AND COURAGE.**



**We are what we
repeatedly do.
Excellence, then,
is not an act but a habit.
— Aristotle**

EMPATHY TAKES PRACTICE.







When someone thinks you shouldn't be happy, your joy becomes offensive.



sunshine humper



KATIE PETERS
"THE MOVEMENT"
MUSIC COMPOSER: KARLVEL ROBERTS
PRODUCER: GARY O' CONNOR
DIRECTOR: MICHAEL PUNSALAN



Your light is
going to
irritate a lot of
unhealed
people.

Thank you for this feedback.



Dr. Katie Peters
Director of Communications
Washington Local Schools
419-473-8308



On Thu, Jul 23, 2026 at 1:41 PM

While I appreciate that you think joy is the only way to maneuver through life, I am really tired of being saturated by your forced positivity at work. I know many would appreciate you dialing it back during the work day.

Thank you for this feedback.



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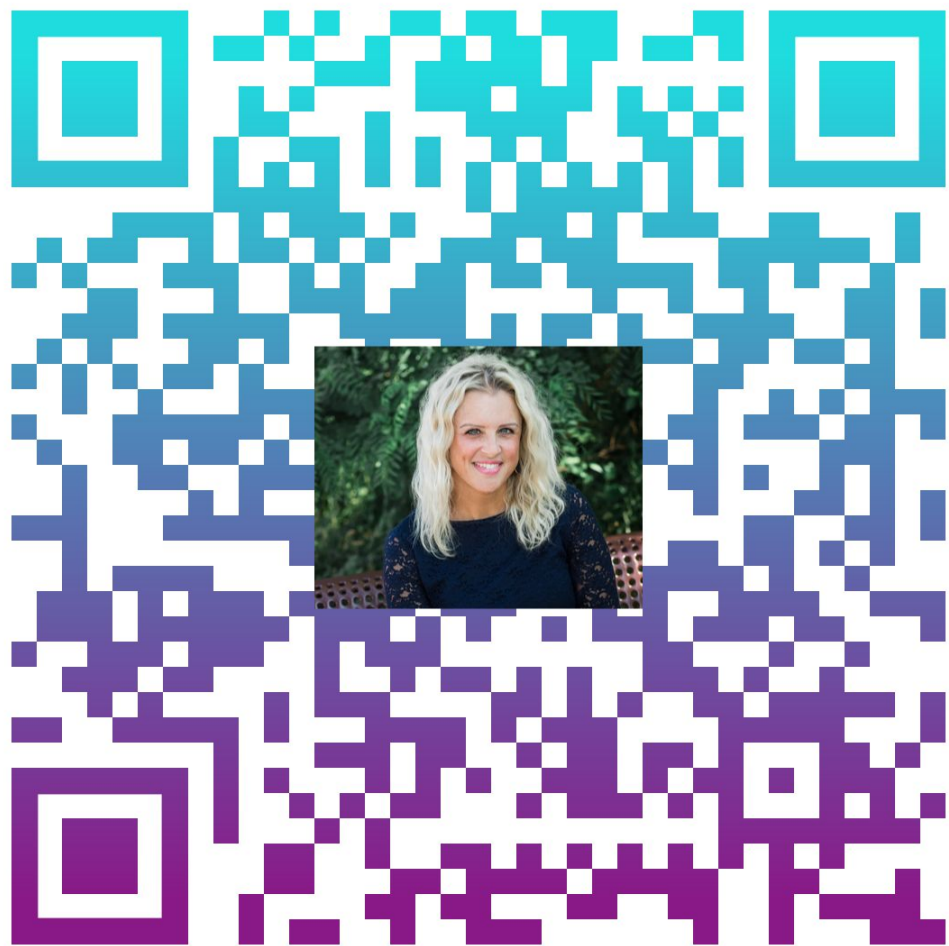


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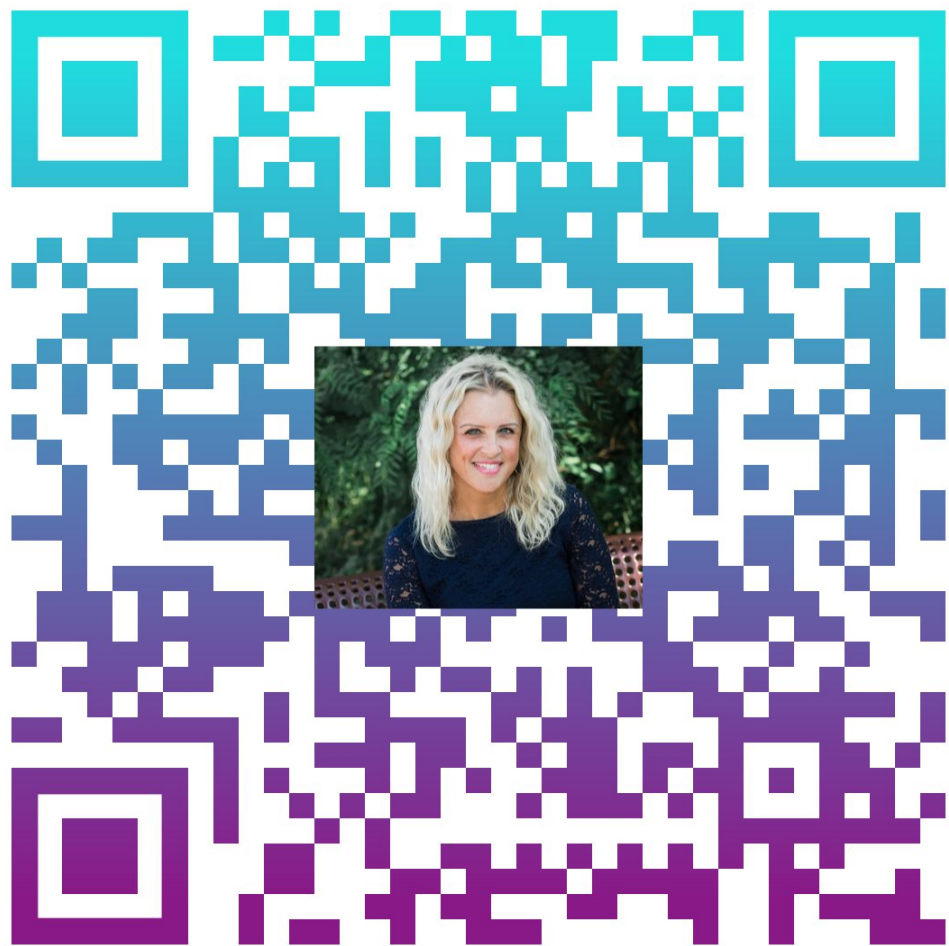






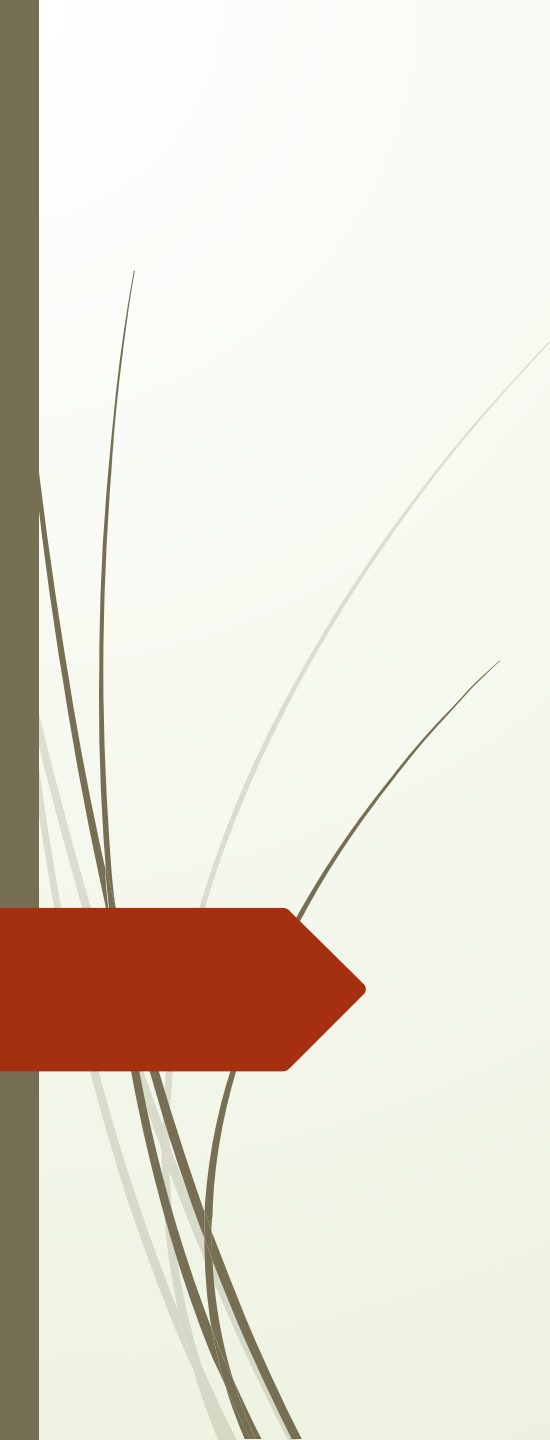
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www.katiepeters.org





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The highest form of
knowledge is empathy.

—
BILL BULLARD

Opinion is really the lowest form
of human knowledge.
It requires no accountability,
no understanding.
The highest form of knowledge
is empathy, for it requires us
to suspend our egos and
live in another's world.
It requires profound purpose
larger than the self kind of
understanding.

-Bill Bullard

eminentlyquotable.com

Dr. Katie
Peters

www.katiepeters.org



SOURCES:

- Smith, T. W., Uchino, B. N., Berg, C. A., & Florsheim, P. (2012). Marital discord and coronary artery disease: A comparison of behaviorally defined discrete groups. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 80(1), 87-92.
- Weissbourd , Richard. "Kids Reveal Their Parents Care More about Academic Achievement than Kindness." *Education News*, Harvard Graduate School Education, 26 June 2014, www.educationviews.org/kids-reveal-parents-care-academic-achievement-kindness/.
- <https://www.cultofpedagogy.com/marigolds/>