

"LISTEN"

This past October, (Oct. 16th, 2011, to be exact), I heard a very thought provoking interview on a radio program about an African American man named John Francis, whom for "17 yrs." had did something in which I thought could not have been possible for a man to do, (well, at least by choice while in a sound mind).

For 17 yrs. John Francis, an African American man whom holds "3" College Degrees, a P.H.D., (and not to mention held the prestigious title of U.S. Ambassador), was a man whom simply decided one day to "Keep silent" and stop speaking. Just like that, after concluding that others don't respect his views and that "talking" wasn't getting him anywhere other than frustrated, Mr. Francis just decided to kill all his rap and then do the opposite, "listen."

Included in this decision to quit conversing with people, Mr. Francis also decided to stop driving and riding in cars, (which remarkably lasted for "23" yrs.), while he "walked" across the whole United States.

Now during Mr. Francis's "17" yrs. Journey in which he didn't speak as he traveled the country on foot, Mr. Francis practiced the act of "Listening" to others to try and better "understand" what people were saying about society, politics, and in general, "Life." The experiences Mr. Francis imparted completely enthralled me because their contents and their substance had the ability to resonate with the average and common man and woman that live and come from every and any part of the country.

This indeed was a worthy revelation Mr. Francis shared, because the point being presented and produced is that "people see just that, people". Furthermore, no matter where we live (even despite economic lives), we "all" want the same things in life, such as: "Love", "Happiness", "Peace", "Stability", "Fellowship", etc., and that if we would just "LISTEN" to one another, (without "talking at", "talking over", or "talking under", but rather "talked with each other"),

the vast majority of society's problems would be well advanced on their way to being solved.

Now after hearing this, it wasn't long at all before I came to the conclusion and realized that, if we "truly listened to one another," and if because we did so, (Amazing Human Beings), the vast majority of our problems in society (and in the world at large for that matter), would be well advanced on their way to being solved, and "Would Not this make the world a better place?"

Just imagine, (as I thought to myself), something we human beings all over the world all have the power to do (one way or another even if we're deaf), we all could try to make the world a better place if we could just commit to the necessary efforts into doing something we all have the "precious" ability to do...
... "LISTEN."

It is a fascinating observation Mr. Francis made, but what's even more fascinating, is that it took a man with "3" College Degrees, a P.H.D., and other kinds of higher learning, a whole "17 yrs." of silence, (self imposed silence that is), while traveling on foot across the nation to comprehend the potency, potential, and value of one just to "LISTEN."

Mr. Francis's book is entitled "The Ragged Edge of Silence: Finding Peace In A Noisy World," and as I said, it was, (and still is), a Powerful Revelation, (even though this revelation was conveyed to me through the medium of a "2" hr. radio program), and deserves to be echoed not only in a Blog, ... but on every mountain top until it gets heard, and then people start to ... LISTEN

By Deanna The Doll

P.S.* ALL comments are
welcomed and encouraged