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THE COMMISSIONER

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Why Commissioners Go to Philmont

During some of my research about diversity, I asked a Charleston, South Carolina, school principal for some sort of guidance toward what she would like to see “taught” to people from around the country. Her reply: “That all deserve to be respected as human beings. Diversity means accepting all—special needs individuals, those of other races, religion, cognitive abilities, talent, and gender.”

In a *Wall Street Journal* article from August 13, 2017, titled “What the Google Controversy Misses: The Business Case for Diversity,” a company’s diversity and inclusion head was quoted as saying, “Diversity is not the goal itself. Strengthening your process begets diversity and leads to better collaboration and teamwork.” To be a reflection of our community, as Scouters we have to be aware of changing issues and cultural values.

As commissioners, we can find ourselves called upon to negotiate any sort of situation imaginable. That is one of the reasons for continuing to educate ourselves and talk to other Scouters who can possibly give us the spark of an idea. We will hopefully be an example of what we want for the next generation—whatever they are labeled. This is what commissioners are working toward.

Next summer we will be adding a class for commissioners the week of June 10–16 at Philmont Training Center focusing on diversity and inclusion. See you there!



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