OMOLUABI

"A Child of Character"

A Violence Prevention Campaign Initiative

Point Pelee National Park Trip

By: Tatyana Roberts

On Saturday, September 1st, families from across the African/Black community gathered together and went on a trip to Point Pelee for Labour Day weekend, a wonderful way to end the summer before school started. There were plenty of things to see and plenty of things to learn. The kids learned about different types of birds and the different manners in which they fly. There was an Owl and a Falcon, which were very calm, but no one could touch them because the birds do not like to be touched.

Point Pelee was filled with a variety of trees, which added to the beautiful scenery. There were two shuttle buses that took people to the other side of the park where there was a beach that included 'the point' of Point Pelee. There were also trails on which people could either walk or ride their bikes to different parts of the park.

After a tour around the park, Mrs.



Afolabi and the families drove to Westwood beach on Point Pelee and had a cookout. This included delicious foods, snacks, fruits, drinks and even a cake to celebrate Mama Alice's birthday. Music was playing and kids were having fun, blowing bubbles and playing soccer. Parents took the oppurtunity to relax, listen to music and enjoy the long weekend before school.

Overall, everyone was having fun enjoying the sun. Even though not everyone necessarily knew each other, everyone came together and was one big happy family. The love was evident through all the fun and laughter that could be heard throughout the beach. Love, family, and unity; these are the words I would use to describe this Labour Day weekend's events.

Truth and the Law

By: Lakin Afolabi



meaning truth. It is also an Omoluabi principal. Truth trait that is universally reis a universal virtue that has spected in individuals. It is been sought and pursued sought in ideas and philosthroughout all cultures at ophies and it is an integral

ture that prefers deception Omoluabi, it is equally viover honesty. Among certain groups however, there is a growing movement with being the main vehicle away from truth. It is being argued that truth is not absolute. universal and Some put forth the idea that truth cannot be known "Otito" is a Yoruba word statement itself can be true. from opposing lawyers.

5

tal in the profession of law.

The court system is tasked of truth finding. This is most accomplished commonly through the adversarial trial process. Various parties present their witnesses and by anyone, while not ques- the witnesses are then subtioning whether or not that ject to cross-examination Truthfulness is a character The theory is that upon being questioned vigorously, lies and deception will be exposed and the truth will prevail. As John Henall times. There is no one ingredient in the make- ry Wigmore opined "cross who values lies over truth. up of an Omoluabi. Just examination is the greatest You will never find a cul- as truth is essential to an legal engine ever invented

for the discovery of truth".

Not only does the court system have an obligation to truth, lawyers, despite how they are portrayed, also have an obligation to pursue and uphold the truth. Lawyers have the highest ethical standard and responsibilities with regard to presenting evidence in this mission.

Lawyers are not to present evidence known to be false or permitted to deceive or mislead the courts. When all participants work together in this task, the court system functions exceptionally well; truth is separated from lies, and justice is carried out.

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The Truth and Mental Helath

By: Pastor Joseph Sabageh

We live in a sinful world where deception abounds and truth is a rarity. Lies, innuendoes, exaggerations and errors of all kinds flourish in every land.

Indeed corruption, falsehood and greed are at the hearts of almost every enterprise. Even more, human society is also being inundated with new ideas on how to live, how to dress, how to behave and even how to think. Religious, political and economic 'breakthroughs' are on the increase; but no sooner has one new idea been tried and discredited before an even more spectacular claim is made for another.

Believe it or not, an age-old question is being asked today? At the trial of Jesus, Christ was questioned by the Roman governor Pontius Pilate who was no stranger to deception. He had grave doubts that anyone could speak the truth, so he too asked the question: "What is Truth?" (John 18:38). According to the dictionary, truth is something

that is 'in accordance with the facts, something genuine, correct and accurate, something that lives up to its claims.'

Do we find truth in our society? Not much, you will agree. But back to our question. What is truth? Truth is different from beliefs and hope. Absolute truth is not dependent upon public opinion or popularity. Polls cannot sway it. Not even the inexhaustible authority of celebrity endorsement can change it.

So how can we find truth? Truth can only be found in Jesus Christ, who says, "I am the way, the truth and the life." It is very important that we build our character around the truth. As we all know, it is difficult enough to sort out the truth from our own experience. Jesus said, "You shall know the Truth and the truth shall set you free" (John 8:32). Jesus is the foundation of truth and he Himself is the truth that makes us free. He is the source of truth, the perfect standard of what is right. He frees us from the consequences of sin, self-deception and from deception of Satan. In a world of error, deception and confusion, it is reassuring to find such positive and true statements

Jesus is the embodiment of truth, the living truth. Truth is vital to human society. Its absence causes mistrust which often leads to hatred and even to war. The absence of truth is the main cause of humanity's sin and resulting woes. The presence of truth uplifts. The absence of truth degrades. The Bible puts is thus: Proverbs 14:34 "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

Error corrupts and enslaves. Truth brings freedom – freedom from fear, freedom from hate. Truth replaces fear with faith and confidence. People who hold and live the truth are not afraid of privation, persecution or even death. They have the truth about life and death, the present and the hereafter, and fear has no hold on them.

Truth opens people's eyes to the corruption and utter worthlessness of Satan's lifestyle. Truth brings God's law into focus. Truth, for all its value, is not popular. Multiplied millions of people reject truth simply because they love sin, even though they know it's wrong. Truth is as powerful over falsehood as light is over

darkness. Nothing can destroy truth. Sinners may hate truth, reject truth and fight it with all their might, but truth is unaffected, it cannot be destroyed. Truth is invincible. Truth can penetrate even the darkest recesses of the human mind. Truth is eternal; as eternal as God Himself. Truth is the best insurance policy an individual or community can invest in. Good character is built on truth. Truth can make us uncomfortable at times, and it can sometimes be bitter, because it is the truth. Denying the truth doesn't change the truth. Truth is unchangeable. Instead of hearing the truthing and believing in it, many people run away from it and build their character on falsehood. Truthfulness seems so rare that we feel we must end our statement with "I promise."

If we tell the truth all the time, we will have less pressure to back up our words with an oath or promise. Some people do not understand God's truth because they are not ready for it. God reveals truth to people who will act on it, who will make it evident in their lives. We must speak and live by God's truth regardless of the consequences.



Community Snapshots

















Children's Articles on Respect

Truth vs Lies

By: Francine Babo, age 11

Good morning/afternoon ladies and gentlemen, family and children. Today we are going to talk about truth, what truth means to me and what would happen if you didn't tell the truth. We will now start.

To me, telling the truth means you don't lie and if you know someone is lying you tell the truth. That's what we're going to talk about in this article.

The first one is telling the truth. When you tell

ways the best way to go if you want to stay away who is lying. from having more troutruth means to me.

the truth for someone else about not having touched who is lying. Most chil- it. When you say that, your dren don't want to tell on parents or whoever might other people if the problem stop trusting you. is really grave, like having broken something or hav- really hard to stop. Then ing hurt someone. That is the time when you can't can't trust you even when act like nothing happened you are telling the truth. and you weren't there. You That is what it means to me the truth you lift a weight should go see an adult and when you lie.

you were carrying on your tell them what happened. shoulders. The truth is al- That is what it means to me to tell the truth for someone

The last one is what hapworse. For example, you happens when you lie. The second one is telling ate something and lie

> Once you start lying it's your friends and family

This concludes my article about telling the truth. All of this could really happen and you could get in really big trouble with your famible than you are already pens when you lie. When ly. This is what it means to in. That's what telling the you lie the problem gets me to tell the truth and what

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Honesty

By Christopher, age 17

When I think about hon-"trust" the word comes to mind. When you show people you are trustworthy they give you more responsibility. They feel that they can count on you. People respect you. They also tell other people what a good, nice and kind person you are and that you can be trusted. Then others trust you. You feel proud of yourself. As life goes on, that builds your character and shapes who you are and how others treat you.

encouraged to write or draw articles for publication in the next issue. The theme is 'Character'. For more information, call 519 966-2767 or email us at info@omoluabi.ca

Get involved: youth are

Telling the Truth is not Always Easy By: Abel Powo, age 13

I swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. Dear readers, does this sentence remind you of a specific profession or social background? If your answer is no, let me give you a hint, in such a place, we find judges, guilty parties and at times a small group of people. GREAT JOB!! Your Guess was right, THE TRIBUNAL. It is in such places that judges judge different types of people and try to prove their guilt or innocence. The reason I say judges should prove guilt while we already know they are guilty is that some may be afraid, lie or they just don't want to tell the truth-even if these people know that this may be their last chance to be free. Others, however, may perhaps be afraid and just want to be freed, then end up telling the truth. In the words of Grégoire Lacroix "truth, is a lie deflated at the last moment"

It is not always easy to tell the truth, but we feel relieved after doing so. For instance, when your friend tells you about their dream to become a great singer, you share their



Picture by Michelle Age 6

joy, then you ask them to sing a sample song with their beautiful voice. But when they start to sing, you feel so disappoint- truth, they may feel hurt, but ed (as their voice is so bad). not for long. Notwithstaning, Since you don't want to hurt their feelings you tell them that it is good. A few weeks later, they comes to see you, sad, as they were dismissed from a singing competition because their voice was so bad. How are you going to feel? Sad or happy? Me, I would feel extremely sad for having failed to tell the truth about their voice when I was asked. is very difficult, but after tell-Of course I didnt want to hurt their feelings, but the fact that as a friend I failed to tell the truth would make them more hurt and betrayed...

Truth may hurt ones feelings

but far more better than a lie from a friend. Which means it is better to tell a friend the you would feel much better for having been sincere with your friend than being hypocritical. Furthermore, if you had hidden the truth, you would have that burden in your mind, your conscience would not let it go and that feeling would stay longer than if you had told the truth.

Sometimes telling the truth ing it we are overcome with relief. John 8:32: "Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free!"

Black History: Otito -Truth

By: Irene Moore Davis

"Honour belongs to those who never forsake the truth, even when things seem dark and grim, who try over and over again, who are never discouraged by insults, humiliation and even defeat."

Nelson Mandela

"The way to right wrongs is to turn the light of truth upon them." – Ida B. Wells

"One of the truest tests of integrity is its blunt refusal to be compromised." – Chinua Achebe

Not only in Yoruba culture but in many cultures, honesty is viewed as an important trait. Truthfulness is one of the purest expressions of character. In life, we tend to respect individuals who demonstrate integrity-people with whom we feel capable of establishing trust. In the workplace, the average employer would agree that honesty, plus closely related attributes such as accountability and reliability, should be ranked among the most highly valued employability skills.

However, it is also true that it takes courage to tell the truth when society demands your silence. It takes conviction to say the things that nobody wants to hear, despite pressure to remain quiet.

Throughout the African Diaspora, generations of freedom fighters have relied on the truth as their weapon of choice, whether speaking about the greed and brutality of colonial powers, the cruelty of slavery, the epidemic of lynching, or conditions of inequality in the modern era.

In our time, how many of us possess the determination of Colin Kaepernick, for whom standing up for the truth has meant kneeling down on the football field to bring attention to systemic injustice against people of African descent? How many of us would willingly sacrifice our careers and incomes to take such a stand?

How many of us are as determined as Marielle Franco, the Afro-Brazilian politician who risked (and ultimately lost) her life by speaking candidly about police brutality and poverty?

How many of us are as committed as the dissidents around the world, not only in the past but today, who have refused to remain silent about environmental injustice, political corruption, or the oppression faced by minority groups, despite the threat of imprisonment or worse?

How many of us are as courageous as the truth-tellers and whistle-blowers of the #metoo movement—women and sometimes men who have come forward to share their painful stories of abuse and harassment in order to prevent others from having to experience the same things? Frequently, after years of silence, the victims have been re-victimized by the public. In reality, many people who claim to value honesty only value honesty when it does not disturb the status quo.

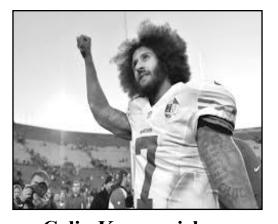
"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter", said Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.—a great man whose relentless truth-telling ultimately cost him his life. Fortunately, most of us will never face that kind of pressure. When you see something happening in your school or your workplace that doesn't seem right, state your concerns. If you witness someone being bullied, say something. If you are aware of injustice, you have the right (and the responsibility) not to remain silent.

Honesty is a highly valued trait, but even when society demands your silence, don't give in. If you want to make the world better, find the courage to "speak the truth, even if your voice shakes" (author unknown.)

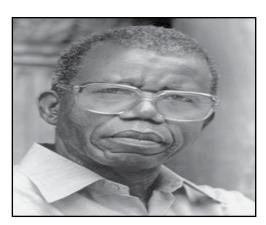


Ida B. Wells

Ask the Elders



Colin Kaepernick



Chinua Achebe

That they should have a close relationship with God. Put God first in your life and everything else will come after. Always help people and God will bless you.

2. Who is the person who influenced your life the most?

God, first, always. Other than God, I have a very close friend from church

who always gives me advice and helps me to be a better person. She always does good and teaches me how not to be angry. She has positively influenced me and taught me to be good no matter what.

*Questions by Laabo Afolabi and answers by Mrs. Elizabeth Achirimbi

1. What message do you want to pass on to your children and grandchildren?

A Child of Character Omoluabi Newspaper

A Violence Prevention Campaign Initiative

Why People Lie

By: Bernice Babo age 13

sometimes creating new or er you are big or small! deepening and discovering new friendships.

are going to tell lies all to ourselves. We avoid the formation, why waste your

Telling the truth is a cru- positively and in a produc- because we think that we find the hardest to do. cial essential in creating or tive manner? Well, let me would rather live with that settled issues-finding for- how and why you will be someone finds out. giveness in our hearts, and able to overcome it, wheth-

people lie? Well, lies comes lie to protect ourselves in-Why do some people from fear and that fear dechoose to lie? Well, it's velops over the years, esclear that to be able to tell pecially if you have no- here with our selfish acthe truth to others, you body to be there and guide tions, them or you? must first be able to tell you in the right direction. yourself the truth. If you Mostly it starts from lit- takes more energy and will can't do that, then you tle problems. Usually, the power to lie than to tell the can't trust anyone, so you first lie starts when we lie truth? Considering this in-

avoid hurting people's First things first, why do feelings, but it leads us to stead. Think this through, who are we really helping

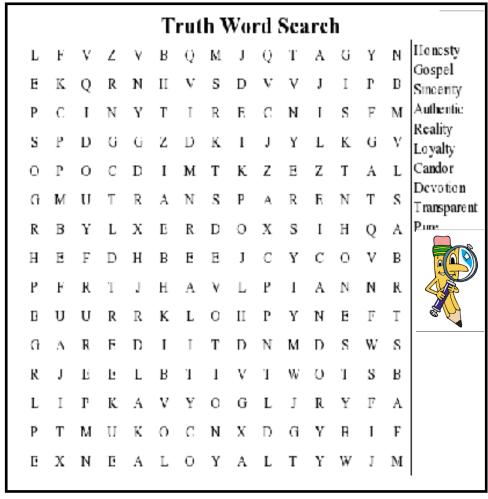
Did you know that it

the time. Once you are not truth because we are ter- energy on lying instead of able to tell yourself the rified of how it will make quickly telling the truth truth, how will you be able us feel around others. We and getting over it? Sadly to look and communicate decide to do this instead this is what some people

I'm telling you first hand keeping healthy relation- take you on an adventure lie than the truth. We try I know what that's like, ships. It can help with un- on how lying begins, and so hard to suppress it until but trust me if you listen and try your hardest you People think they lie to can and will accomplish things and that is how everyone should live. My dear friends let me assure you that this indeed is the "TRUTH".

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Detecting Truth

By: Steve Fotso, age 16

In our daily life, seeking and telling the truth is paramount, however, everyday practice tends to show the opposite. These days, it becomes more and more difficult to know if the news that we listen to on television, on the radio or on our reach such as the internet or smartphones is telling the books to detect the truth. truth. This is particularly networks that often give so reliability has not been verthat we do not know what to information



By trusting information obdue to the media and social tained from a source whose it is also in families and much wrong information, ified, we risk sharing false with those believe. Therefore, it's our around us. This will only responsibility to make use help spread the misinformaof tools that are within our tion. However, many peo-

they hear on the news instead of seeking the truth. one day and that expanding the lie will only make stronger.

The truth is not only exaggerated in social media, lie more often. It is important, however, to always tell the truth to our loved ones ing never leads to anything son.

ple prefer beautiful lies to good because the truth alugly truth, especially in this ways ends up surfacing and world in which new prob- there will be consequenclems and conflicts emerge es. These consequences are each day. That means they that upon learning one has prefer to believe the lies been deceived, the person to whom the lie has been said will lose all confidence These people must realize in that loved one whom that they will face the truth they thought they knew and trusted the most.

Lying can destroy an esthe shock of the truth even tablished relationship with a loved one or co-worker. To tell the truth is proof of honesty in a person. Honesty is a virtue found in a communities where people sincere and trustworthy person. By telling the truth we set an example that others can follow while presenting and those around us. Ly- themselves as a reliable per-

Otito (Truth)

By: Terrance Travis

Let us be truth As we thread our lives through the eye of reality May we be wise and open minded Mindfully reminded That our time is short And our battle is long Our faith is resilient, but temptation is strong May we speak with a kind and honest tongue Shine our truth like the light

from a fiery sun sword Allow our peace to release the divinity of our core Be more than an underestimation Climb to the summit of a moral mountain top Be amazing new cool perspective Inject truth and love into the eye of a spreading infection That feeds on hate and lies

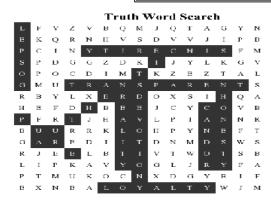
Truth is the fruit

Given to you Be more mighty than the To feed the stillness in all light that you do searching for you set yourself free A path forged in your bones Mindfully reminded since Adam and Eve Godliness is your destiny scripted within your eyes throughout our life trying times

Truth will lead you to the So, let us be truth Your wildest dreams are As we thread our lives through the eye of reality But your truth is the key to May we be wise and open minded That our time is short And our battle is long Put out age old fires with a It is the promise that's been Our faith is resilient but temptation is strong The path that will lead you May we speak with a kind and honest tongue In the darkest corner of your Shine our truth like the light from a fiery sun

African Proverb By: Pastor O. Afolabi

The naked truth is always better than a best-dressed lie



Omoluabi Quiz

Be the first person to email info@omoluabi.ca with the right answer to win a gift certificate!

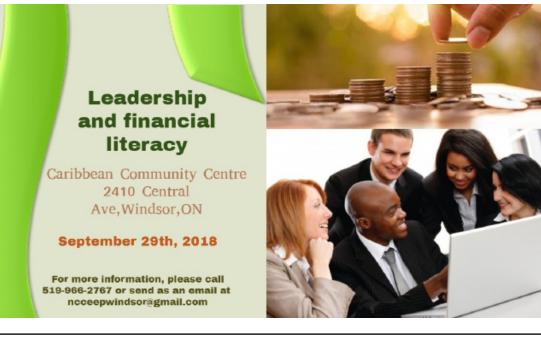
Question: Which Afro-Brazialian politician sacrificed her life speaking the truth against police brutality and poverty?

*You can find the answer in one of this issue's articles!

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Sprucewood Shores Estate Winery



Volume 1, Issue 5 Spring/Summer 2005

Community Events:

Throne of Grace Church proudly present it's 6th Annual. "IN HIS PRESENCE CONCERT" Featuring American Gospel Artist, songwritter & Worship leader, Pastor William McDowell. November 9th, 2018 405 Victoria ave Windsor On. N9A 4N1

Throwback

How Much I Love Computers

BY LAABO AFOLABI, 8

I like computers because you can

play cool games on them. I mostly play games on the coffee break and play snowball fight and roller boy and sometimes I play skateboarding.

At school I play made up games at story book weaver and I also play Chessmaster 4000.

It is not good to stay home and play on your computer all day because it has radiation, which is not good for

Sometimes I go on Paint. Paint isn't a game but it is a program that you could draw and right at. Another game is Minesweeper. Minesweeper is not a game that you have a broom and you have to sweep mines but what you have to do is to click the square with out a mine under it.

Lots of computers are different

so you can play different games. When I was in grade two we got to play when we were done our work. When we got to play, one of the things we got to play with were two computers. The game we usually play is called Mud Man and what you have to do is since you are the sun you have to dry out the mud by bouncing

There are lots of more games that you can play on a computer and if you want to play then play and now

I got to go.

