

RESPECT: How to Change the World One Interaction at a Time

A new book by **Robert L. Dilenschneider** offers a timely roadmap for rebuilding civility in divided times. Drawing on decades of leadership experience and insights from voices across various fields, ***Respect: How to Change the World One Interaction at a Time (Wiley; October 27, 2025)*** demonstrates that respect is not just an abstract virtue but a transformative daily practice that can reshape our world.

A Timely Call for Civility

In his latest book, communications leader Robert L. Dilenschneider issues a clear call: each of us has both the power and the obligation to help restore civility in our daily lives. ***Respect: How to Change the World One Interaction at a Time*** provides a roadmap for building a culture of respect in families, workplaces, and civic institutions at a moment when our public discourse has become coarse and divided.

Drawing on decades of leadership experience and insights from 13 leaders across education, religion, politics, nonprofits, publishing, and the arts, Dilenschneider shows how respect can move from an abstract ideal to a practical way of living.

Why Respect Matters Now

Declining Civility

Civility in politics, social media, workplaces, and communities is in decline.

Normalized Division

Name-calling, mistrust, and entrenched divisions have become the norm.

Feelings of Powerlessness

Many Americans feel powerless to change the tone of public life.

Dilenschneider argues that respect is the antidote. By taking responsibility for how we treat one another, we can begin to reverse the erosion of civility.

The Foundations of Respect

Self-Respect First

Respect begins with how we view ourselves. Honoring our own dignity and values provides the foundation for extending respect to others.

Philosophical Roots

From Immanuel Kant's belief in the inherent worth of every individual to the Golden Rule, traditions across time emphasize the universal need for respect.

Practical Wisdom

Lessons are made vivid through personal stories, such as Michael J. Dowling of Northwell Health, who built organizational culture around listening, decency, and respect.

A Message of Possibility and Hope

The book's central point is both practical and hopeful: we are not powerless. Respect can be learned, taught, and practiced in every setting. By starting with self-respect and extending it outward, we can create families, workplaces, and communities where people listen, disagree constructively, and strengthen democratic life.

As Dilenschneider writes, *"You are not powerless... each of us has the power, and the obligation, to help forge a culture based on respectfulness."*

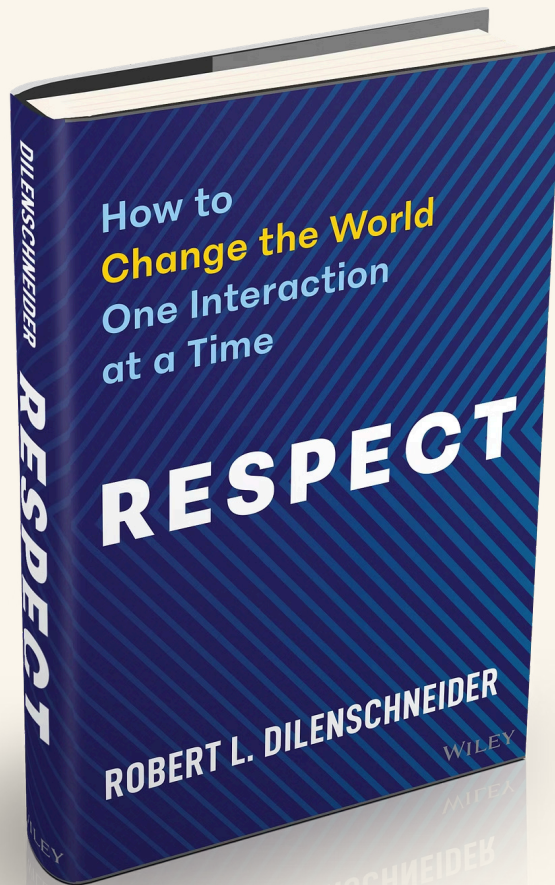
About the Author

"Each of us has the ability, and responsibility, to help forge a culture based on respect, one interaction at a time."

Robert L. Dilenschneider is the founder of The Dilenschneider Group, a strategic communications firm. Widely recognized as a leading communications professional, he has authored numerous books including *The Ultimate Guide to Power & Influence*, *Character: Life Lessons in Courage, Integrity, and Leadership*, and his latest ***RESPECT: How to Change the World One Interaction at a Time***.

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