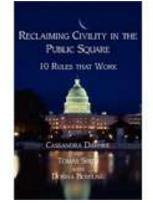


CIVILITY CENTER BOOK REVIEW



Reclaiming Civility in the Public Square

10 Rules That Work

We (at the Institute for Civility) usually use this space to share a book review with you as a part of our on-going effort to provide you with resources and help you be aware of what is available related to civility and civic participation.

Our book review this time is somewhat different – as the book we are reviewing is our own! Several years ago Donna Bowling approached us about putting the story of the Institute into book form. While we agreed it was a good idea, we never felt like we had the time, energy or patience to undertake such a task.

The second time Donna approached us, she offered to write it for us. This turned out to be an even more generous offer then she first realized. It has been a long, often tedious, sometimes frustrating journey. But we have all learned a lot along the way.

For a full year we made a monthly trip from Houston to Temple, Texas where Donna lives. We would drive up in the morning, spend several hours telling her all about the Institute, and then leave it in her good hands. After many revisions and countless prayers, we have a book we believe can be a useful tool for anyone wanting to bring more civility to their nation, community, and home.

The book is short and easy to read. It is organized around 10 rules we identified as we worked on Capitol Hill. Each rule is illustrated with a true life story taken from our experiences. There are also comments from others who have found civility works, a short historical overview of civility within our government, and a brief study guide. Organized in this fashion, the book lends itself to easy use for small group study and discussions.

The book is available on Amazon.com and many other on-line booksellers. We hope you will pick up a copy and share it with your friends. We trust you will find it engaging, thought provoking, and helpful.

About the Authors: Donna Bowling is a writer, teacher, speaker and occasional preacher. She received her law degree from the University of Oklahoma College of Law, and a Master of Arts in Theological Studies at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. More recently she has served as adjunct professor at Tarlton State University and the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. Cassandra Dahnke and Tomas Spath are Presbyterian pastors and co-founders of the Institute for Civility in Government.

<u>Reclaiming Civility in the Public Square – 10 Rules That Work</u> is published by Wingspan Press, Livermore, California, 2007.

Review completed by the team at The Institute for Civility <u>www.instituteforcivility.org</u>