

IT'S ALL ABOUT RESPECT

Most students living in the residence halls share a variety of goals and characteristics, including academic accomplishments, friendships and a sense of belonging. While living in a residence hall, it is essential that individuals respect the rights of their fellow residents, including the rights to privacy, study and rest, equal opportunity to share facilities common to all, and the right to explore and develop as a person. Only by respecting the

rights of others can you expect to have your rights respected.

Throughout this handbook are the policies and procedures developed to foster a safe community based upon mutual respect. It would be impossible to legislate every facet of residence hall living. This handbook should serve as a guide to residence hall living, with the spirit of common courtesy and respect for others maintained at all times.

The principles governing everyone's behavior in the residence halls are:

- Respect for the rights of other residents.
- Respect for the residence hall facilities.
- Respect for staff members and those who care for the residents and facilities.

COMMUNITY STANDARDS

Establishing open communication about expectations is a very important part of developing a positive community environment. For this reason, Community Standards are developed by each community at the beginning of each semester. The Community Advisor assists residents in developing a written set of

standards, agreed upon by all members of the floor, concerning issues that affect the floor/hall living environment and how issues will be addressed.

Community Standards must be put in writing and submitted to the Office of Residence Life. All community residents must sign this

proposal. Community Standards proposals most frequently concern a request to modify quiet hours, but may also address floor/hall issues, such as smoking and guest policies.

To encourage discussion and agreement all community residents must sign the community standards.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY

The Office of Residence Life is committed to celebrating the rich diversity of people who live and work in our residence halls. We believe that our living environments must foster freedom of thought and opinion in a spirit of mutual respect. All of our programs, activities, and interactions are enriched by accepting each other as we are and by celebrating our uniqueness as well as our commonality. We believe that any attempt to oppress any individual or group is a threat to everyone in the community. Therefore, everyone

who chooses to live in, work in or visit University residence halls must understand that no form of bigotry, harassment, intimidation, threat, or abuse - whether verbal or written, physical or psychological, direct or implied - will be tolerated.

Residence Life will confront such oppressive behavior in an appropriate manner recognizing that education is our most powerful tool. Behaviors within the residence halls that violate University policy may be adjudicated by Residence Life and/or the University judicial process as outlined in the University Code of

Student Conduct. It is through the implementation of this policy that Residence Life participates in the fulfillment of the University's goals to achieve excellence in all phases of University life.

Adapted from Indiana University Residential Programs & Services Diversity Statement, and The Ohio State University Residence Life Diversity Statement.

