

# Talking Across Difference

• Kenny Irby, Visual Journalism Group Leader • September 27, 2004

## **Content/ Event** **180°** **People/ Process** **360°**

*One Must...*

### **Be Honest**

How honest are you? It is difficult to communicate with and to trust someone with whom you do not naturally connect with. Be clear about what you mean, sincere about what you say and reflective about your timing so that you avoid misunderstandings and develop trusting relationships.

### **Seek Understanding**

Ask questions before reacting and don't jump to conclusions if you think that you are hearing something that does not sit right with you. Give the person the benefit of the doubt.

### **Challenge with Passion**

Don't let your passion become overpowering and poison the opportunity. Share your perspective, work toward the development of a common vocabulary and a shared mission of serving the reader/viewer.

### **Be willing to Change**

"In times of change, learners inherit the earth." Practice the skill of genuinely considering other ways of seeing and doing things. Be open to resolving conflicts.

### **Stay in the Conversation**

Keep the dialogue going and resist the temptation to flee. It may be the toughest thing to do when things are uncomfortable or new. Remember that, "there is no progress without struggle."

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