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Subject: Re: Soldiers disrespect towards cadets.

Posted by [Dave Anderson](#) on Tue, 06 May 2008 00:55:22 GMT

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Quote:I knew a kid just like you when I went through. He was so proud of those "medals" and it took about a week before the group threatened his life, and he was removed from command of our group. Then he found out he couldn't wear them and sulked for the rest of boot camp.

I am proud of the medals I have earned, but like you implied, in the end they are just medal and fabric. It is offensive though when someone says that they do not mean anything, and are "trinkets". I had a shit-life when I came out of middle school, and the JROTC turned my life around. Those medals are one of the only positive memories I have from the past six years of my life. It took me three years to receive my first medal, and that was from the NCO Association where it was handed to me by a Sergeant Major. Being a high school student and getting to shake his hand, even getting to salute him, was a complete honor. How is that not supposed to mean anything to me?

Quote:With a chest full of real medals earned on three deployments to the persian gulf. And to be honest, even they don't mean anything now... Meanwhile, Mr. "I have ROTC medals" spent three years smoking and drinking himself into a bitter hole and never saw combat until he was reassigned to our unit.

It just seems that because your medals don't mean anything to you anymore, that you just think that they don't mean anything period. Not everyone is going to have the same mindset as you. Some soldiers will value their medals more than others, some won't value them at all. Its just how a person perceives things.

Quote:Honor is earned through service. You need to be humble, respectful and deal with the losers who throw their weight around by doing the exact opposite of what you want to. Because that's how a military man does business.

How on earth is the Marine's behavior justifiable then?

Quote:No excuses, no blame, no whining about fairness.

He faces the adversity, digs in, and comes out stronger than before.

I did something wrong. I openly admit that, and I won't ever deny it. I'm not trying to argue to justify what I did wrong though. I'm simply making an argument about a Marines behavior, when I know for a fact that the way he behaved is not how the military teaches our soldiers to behave in a situation like that.

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