

## **Student Handout: Respect Our Emergency Services**

**Video Overview:** The video "*Respect Our Emergency Services*" explores the role of the police and other emergency workers in maintaining a safe and civilized society. It aims to build confidence and trust in these services, especially for young people, and highlights the importance of mutual respect.

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### **Key Points from the Video:**

#### **1. Why Emergency Services Matter:**

- Imagine a world without police, firefighters, or paramedics. Society would be chaotic, and people would live in constant fear.
- The first police force in the UK was established in 1829 by Sir Robert Peel due to rising crime and public concern for safety.
- Today, emergency services continue to play a vital role in protecting you, your family, and your community.

#### **2. Understanding Mistrust Among Young People:**

- Studies show that only 36% of young people trust the police, compared to 73% of adults.
- Reasons for this mistrust can include negative personal experiences or exposure to negative portrayals on social media.

#### **3. The Impact of Social Media on Perceptions:**

- Social media can sometimes amplify negative stories about the police or other emergency services.
- Viral videos or posts are often sensationalized, which can distort the full picture and influence opinions without context.

#### **4. How Emergency Workers Are Trained to Help:**

- Emergency workers undergo years of training to handle challenging situations, respond to crises, and ensure public safety.
- Disrespect or abuse directed at them can impact their well-being, sometimes leading experienced workers to leave their jobs, which can make society less safe.

#### **5. The Importance of Mutual Respect:**

- Emergency workers, whether in police, fire, ambulance, or other services, risk their lives daily to keep communities safe.
  - Showing respect for these workers strengthens their ability to protect and serve effectively.
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## Classroom Activities:

### 1. Discussion Questions:

- *What do you think society would be like without emergency services?*
- *How does social media influence your view of emergency workers?*
- *What can young people do to build a positive relationship with the police?*

### 2. Role-Play Scenarios:

- Practice scenarios where you might need to interact with emergency services (e.g., reporting a stolen phone or seeking help in an emergency).
  - Think about how respectful communication can help these situations.
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## Reflection:

Write a response to the following:

- **One thing you learned from the video:**
  - **One question you have about emergency services:**
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## Additional Resources:

- For more information on how emergency services operate and ways to get involved, check out local programs like the **Police Cadets** or **Youth Engagement** initiatives.
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**Remember:** Emergency workers are here to protect you, and they face difficult situations every day. Just as they respect the communities they serve, showing them respect creates a safer, stronger society for everyone.