







## The Law of Total Responsibility

*The Law of Total Responsibility states that the teacher is responsible for everything that happens within his or her classroom. This principle applies to every level of appointed leadership in a school or district. (26)*

**Objective:** In this section, you will familiarize yourself with the Law of Total Responsibility.

1. Discuss how all of us in the school, including students, are responsible for everything that happens in the school. Be specific.  


2. List ways in which you adhere to this law in your classroom where discipline is concerned. 




3. Consider the following statement: “When the person of lesser authority does not perform, responsibility for that failure always reverts upward—not downward” (28). Is this always true? Discuss some examples. (U.S. President is a clear one.)   

## The Law of Ever-Present Leadership

*Whenever two or more people gather, leadership is present. This resulting leadership may be a positive or negative force in the lives of individuals as well as the work of the institution. (30)*

**Objective:** In this section, you will familiarize yourself with the Law of Ever-Present Leadership.

1. What does this chapter say will happen if appointed leaders “do not take charge” of their responsibilities (30)? 

2. Discuss some of the problems inherent in emerging leaders. How can you counter these negative trends?   

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## The Law of Positive Reinforcement

*In the absence of positive reinforcement from appointed leaders, negative human attitudes and behaviors are most likely to emerge from the group being led. (34)*

**Objective:** In this section, you will familiarize yourself with the Law of Positive Reinforcement.

1. List the positive reinforcements in your (classroom) (school). 

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2. Discuss with colleagues how this law applies in discipline situations.  

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3. Consider this quote: "None of us can live with any happiness, satisfaction, or peace of mind if hope is denied" (35). How will this truth affect the way you approach behavior in your classroom in the future? Can you think of a time you denied a student hope in a discipline situation?   

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4. Share ways to promote hope in your (classroom) (school).   

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