

# Some People Will *Never* Get It!

Some people...you could kick them in the head and they will still never get it. They drive you crazy, pushing you to the limit of your anger, sadness, energy, and headaches. Some break your heart and you are baffled at how they can have any conscious at all. Don't they ever just stop and think about what they're doing? You pray that maybe, just maybe someday, they'll get it, before

it's too late. I always want to give people the benefit of the doubt and I hope people do the same for me, but take my advice, don't bet on it and don't hold your breath in the meantime!



What's **WRONG** with these people? Surely, they must know what they're doing and feel some remorse? Again, don't assume, and don't expect them to act any differently in the future. Even if you've repeated your wishes to them a million times, in every shape and form you could imagine. Even if you've tried to say nothing, hoping the effects of what they did would teach them. Even if you've dropped hints, or even got to the point of being very direct with them, sometimes exploding or crying or begging. . . don't expect change. Oh, you can hope (and I usually do, even if I won't admit it) but don't be too upset if miracles don't happen, be it overnight, or over a lifetime.

Before I go on, I have to clarify. There are two distinct classes of people in this frustrating category. The first is obvious after a while; you are supposed to part ways or at least distance yourself from them because there is no mutual benefit to continuing your interaction with that person or perhaps that group of people. Once you respect yourself enough to do this, people more suited to you and your mission in this life can start to show up in your life, and everyone is happier. The second group may torment you for life! These are the people that are either related to you, work with you in a job you love, or that you choose to commit to for life. Oh, you'll feel like you should "be committed" some days alright! Now, let me emphasize that just because someone's in this second class, it doesn't mean you are stuck with them. There's always a way to distance yourself emotionally or even to cut ties completely, if that's what's meant to be. No matter what, your obligation is to take care of how things affect you and to strive for positive experiences as much as possible. You are always in control, no matter what anyone else does.

That said, your job is NOT to control what others do, but to control what YOU do. No matter what anyone else does or doesn't do, YOU still get to decide how you're going to let it impact you, if at all. I've had enough of these unpleasant experiences and frustrating people in my life to now understand a little of the bigger picture: That person or that experience is trying to **HELP ME** in some way, and when I look at the situation from that angle, I don't get so upset or stay upset so long. After all, being upset is such a shameful waste of your precious time and energy! I truly believe that every interaction is trying to guide us into something better for us, and it's usually pretty personal. Maybe we need to learn to be more independent and to pursue our desires and caring for ourselves a little more. Maybe we need to learn to practice standing our ground without offending anyone else. Maybe the people you sacrifice everything for really don't appreciate it or grow from it, and it's time to start following your own dreams, and stop doing so much for them. (This is a **BIG** one for parents...I believe we stunt the growth and ruin a child when we do too much for them, especially when they made the choice to risk a bad situation they now want our help with; don't do too much or they will never learn, and never learn how to take care of themselves the way they should!)

Life is about evolving, and maybe some of the things you'd settle for before, or even do before, isn't helping you or your life anymore. These things can be very obvious, if you just open your eyes and your heart, but if you miss them, something upsetting will happen to try to get your attention on it. Often, we don't know it's time to move on or to look at something else, or that the person frustrating you has bigger issues than you'll ever understand. And so, I sincerely believe that God puts these people in our lives to nudge us towards something we are supposed to do or learn. We may not see it right away and sometimes, not at all, but if we keep our hearts open to the possibility that whatever is going

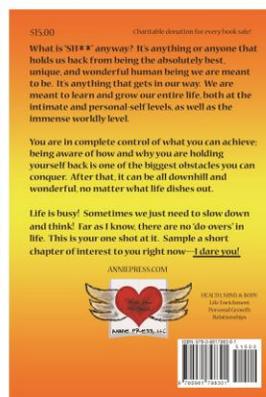
on must have a greater positive good behind it somewhere, it's much easier to handle. If you feel like you're hitting a brick wall as you try to work with this person, maybe it's the wrong way. Maybe you need to turn around and find another way, which may include being true to yourself, whatever that may bring. No matter how your loving actions are perceived by the offender, as long as you act with self-respect and genuine care for that person's highest good, everyone wins! Doing what's best for you, in a self-loving way (which means handling things with as much dignity and compassion as possible) will always have a good impact on others, no matter what. Again, you may not see the benefit, but it'll be there, even just to make the person stop and think that if you won't put up with it, maybe others will give them a hard time with that behavior, too. A person that respects themselves will always be respected by others, deep down, and it will always provide the chance of teaching others to respect themselves and others. It's always good.

Now don't get me wrong. . . some people will make wonderful changes in their lives, all because of you, but we can all deal with that. Don't give up on them, as long as it doesn't harm you, including holding you back in any way. Just try to remember, some people will never get it, and maybe they're not supposed to. Perhaps a big part of the reason they're here is to challenge us until the day we die, so that we are learning and growing, until the day we die? Also, I would imagine there are some people we've encountered that feel the same way about us...maybe we are also among those that others feel "will never get it!" Maybe we drive some people crazy too, because we're here to help them learn something more about themselves? It's a crazy-beautiful design, once again, and all we can do is trust, some days. There's always a gift in it somewhere, some way, someday, even when we can't see the gift in it all. Just trust.

~Mary Anne

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