

# words to live by

Scouting provides youth in our community with a safe, structured, nurturing environment. In turn, Scouting fosters learning and discovering, while instilling values.

While various activities and youth groups teach basic skills and promote teamwork, Scouting goes beyond that and encourages youth to achieve a deeper appreciation of their community. Early in their Scouting experience, boys learn the value of serving others.

Scouting provides boys with a sense that they are important as individuals. It is communicated to boys that those in the Scouting family care about what happens to them.

Finally, and perhaps most important, Scouting promotes activities that lead to personal responsibility and high self-esteem. As a result, when hard decisions have to be made, a boy can resist negative peer pressure and make the right choice.



## Mission

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

## Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

## Scout Law

A Scout is:

Trustworthy	Obedient
Loyal	Cheerful
Helpful	Thrifty
Friendly	Brave
Courteous	Clean
Kind	Reverent



Chief Seattle Council  
www.seattlebsa.org  
www.joinscouts.net  
206.725.5200

# Crisis of Character: Boys At-Risk



## Recent Studies Indicate boys today are at risk<sup>1</sup>. They are:

- 33% More likely than girls to drop out of high school.
- 200% More likely than girls to be diagnosed with learning disabilities.
- 24% Less likely to enter or graduate from college than in 1970.
- 30% More likely to use cocaine than high school girls.
- 200% More likely to commit suicide between ages 5-14 than girls.

The Boy Scouts of America works to give boys a brighter future.

# Boy Scouts of America: Solutions in Action

The Boy Scouts of America provides boys with programs and activities that allow them to enjoy new experiences, provide service to others, develop self-confidence, and build their character.

A recent study conducted by Harris Interactive shows that Scouting programs develop character in boys which positively affects them throughout their lives.



## Men who were Scouts are more likely than those who have never been Scouts to <sup>2</sup>:

- Graduate from high school (91% vs. 87%).
- Graduate from college (35% vs. 19%).
- Earn higher annual household incomes (\$80,000 vs. \$61,000).
- Value family relationships highly (81% vs. 72%).
- Have lifelong friendships (89% vs. 74%).
- Believe helping others should come before one's own self-interest (92% vs. 83%).



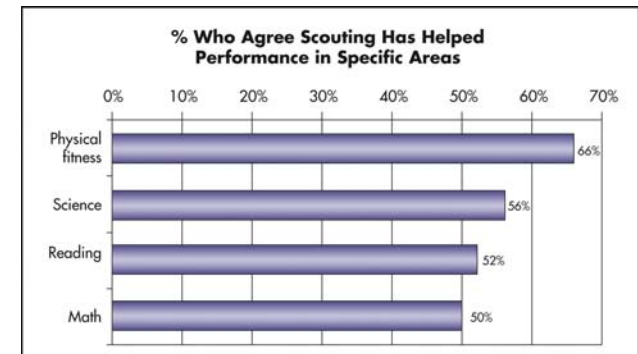
**More than eight of ten men with a Scouting background report that having been a Scout helped them to be a better leader. <sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> "The Trouble with Boys." Newsweek. 30 Jan. 2006.

<sup>2</sup> Harris Interactive. Values of Scouts: A Study of Ethics and Character. May 2005.

## Scouting & Academic Performance

Scouts are more likely than boys who are not Scouts to report they earn mostly A's (25% vs. 17%). <sup>2</sup>



## Scouting Teaches Life Skills

Scouting also provides youth with skills that help them cope with any situation. Youth say Scouting has taught them to:

- Always give their best effort
- Always be honest
- Treat others with respect
- Set goals
- Stay physically fit
- Take care of the environment

## Scouting Develops Character

