

# AFFECTIVE STATEMENTS AND AFFECTIVE QUESTIONS

**Affective Statements and Affective Questions are informal Restorative Practices educators can use to build relationships with their students, peers, and families.** They can also use these practices to diffuse misunderstandings and resolve conflicts. The International Institute for Restorative Practices places both of these strategies in the informal section of their Restorative Practices Continuum.

**Affective Statements are used to express feelings and to share impact.**



## Examples of statements of sharing feelings and impact:

<u>Standard Response:</u>	<u>Restorative Practices Response</u> <u>Affective Statements:</u>
“Good job!”	“Your research project was well-conceived. Your detailed explanations were highly informative.”
“Stop that!”	“Your interruptions are preventing the group from moving forward in the lesson. I worked really hard on this last night and you are upsetting me.”
“Fantastic work, students!”	“I am so impressed with the effort and focus of all of the students today. 100% of us are fully engaged.”
“Get out!”	“If you continue to disrupt the lesson by calling out, I will call the dean to remove you. I would prefer you to stay here with us.”
“I am seriously frustrated!”	“It makes me feel upset when you continue to tease your peers. I used to be teased when I was a kid and it really hurt my feelings.”
“Thank you.”	“It makes me feel very happy to see all students on task this morning.”

**Affective Questions are used to elicit information, understanding, and to encourage empathy.**



**Examples of questions when someone does harm to the community:**

<u>Standard Response:</u>	<u>Restorative Practices Response Affective Statements:</u>
“Why did you do that?”	“What happened?”
“Are you out of your mind?”	“What were you thinking of at the time?”
“Why don’t you think before you act?”	“What have you thought about since?”
“Why are you so selfish?”	“Who has been affected by what you have done? In what way have they been affected?”
“When will you realize the world does not revolve around you?”	“What do you think needs to happen to make things right?”



**Examples of questions when someone is harmed in the community.**

<u>Standard Response:</u>	<u>Restorative Practices Response Affective Statements:</u>
“Why did she do this to you?”	“What did you think when you realized what happened?”
“How are you?”	“What impact has this incident had on you and others?”
“Why did you react that way?”	“What has been the hardest thing for you?”
“If she is suspended, will you be satisfied?”	“What do you think needs to happen to make things right?”