

## Are you a Drop Out?

Schools effectiveness is often measured by the 'drop out' rate. Too often all one has to do to graduate is just show up. All one has to do to wait until the end of the semester for the 'social promotion' to the next class. No so with relationships. Each relationship is a potential classroom. A classroom to learn a lesson that one needs to advance to the next higher of level awareness - toward our potential. The curriculum guide for life lessons doesn't have the 'social promotion' clause. Promotion occurs when we demonstrate competence in the lessons of a particular class room. We are attracted to each classroom or lesson for the lesson which prepares us for our greater purpose - our potential! The only failed relationships in our lives are those that we failed to get the lesson. There are no accidents!

Relationship dropouts are those who due to pain, disappointment, fear of rejection have chosen to drop out. Over the years I have visited with those who dropped out of school, and each one had a 'story' or 'reason' for dropping out. The stories often detail the failings of teachers, peers, parents, or the school system. Another story accompanies the drop out vignette - settling for less than what they really wanted. So it goes with many folks whose primary relationship has 'failed' to give them what they wanted, and then begin to create a set of reasons for their situation.

Some of the greatest experiences I have had is to work with individuals that decided to go back to school - to get on that horse the bucked them off- complete the diploma, GED or graduate from a formal program. Such victory! "We only know the worth of water when the well is dry." rings true for these brave souls that became tired of their story and return to the 'classroom'. RAH

*"Difficult times have helped me to understand better than before how infinitely rich and beautiful life is in every way, and that so many things that one goes worrying about are of no importance whatsoever."-- Isak Dinesen*