



Helping leaders and their organizations prepare for, respond to and recover from crises

Lukaszewski's Lexicon of Decency's Enemies

Time to Start Calling Out Unconscionable Behaviors and Actions

By James E. Lukaszewski,
ABC, Fellow IABC, APR, Fellow PRSA, PRSA BEPS Emeritus
2020 Trust Across America Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient

Explicitly identifying and explaining unconscionable behavior is the first step towards eradicating them. We need to be as explicit and detailed as possible to help counteract and eradicate decency's enemies. Feel free to add additional entries to this list for future counteraction and eradication. If you send them to me, I'll expand the list.

1. **Arrogance:** deciding serious matters without consulting or sometimes deceiving victims.
2. **Beyond the boundaries of decency, civility, and integrity:** your bellybutton will warn you.
3. **Blind Eyes:** the greatest single enabler of inappropriate, unethical, toxic, and unconscionable behavior.
4. **Bullying:** sometimes physical, but mostly coercive, threatening, embarrassing, and intimidating language; causing permanent emotional and psychological injury.
5. **Cheerleading:** cheerleading the actions of decency's enemies.
6. **Defaming:** intentionally giving information and data in ways that embarrass, intimidate, and often silence victims or opponents.
7. **Demeaning:** language that intentionally humiliates, is embarrassing and mean-spirited.
8. **Dismissiveness:** intentionally undervaluing other people and their ideas.
9. **Disparaging:** deliberate disrespect, sometimes ridicule, often sarcastic.
10. **Disrespectfulness:** acidic, demeaning, and intentional denial of respect.
11. **False suspiciousness:** lying about facts and evidence, falsely casting doubt.
12. **Humiliation:** intentional degradation of an individual. Intentionally causing fear, embarrassment, and mortification.
13. **Intentional embarrassment:** Amplifying or magnifying mistakes and errors, obvious needless humiliation.

14. **Intentionally Injurious:** done with malice; inflicting permanent, unrecoverable damage.
15. **Intentionally Irritating:** behaviors, language, and actions that agitate and irritate.
16. **Intentionally Painful:** designed to hurt, damage, be unexplainable and unrespondable.
17. **Intentionally Victimizing:** knowingly and with premeditation; psychologically, emotionally and sometimes physically traumatizing a human being.
18. **Meanness:** acting with malice, disrespect, and wickedness.
19. **Negative Surprise:** falsely luring someone into a “positive event” when the intention is to embarrass, humiliate, and vilify.
20. **Overbearing:** domineering, dictatorial, rudely arrogant, overwhelmingly negative, deliberate meanness.
21. **Overzealousness:** excessive negative zeal and/or devotion or diligence.
22. **Punishing:** intentionally punishing abusiveness designed to hurt.
23. **Ridicule:** words, behaviors, and actions that create contempt, disrespect, and often inappropriate laughter or enjoyment of someone else’s pain and suffering.
24. **Sarcasm:** bitter, derisive, or ironic language designed to embarrass, humiliate, and taunt. Jeering.
25. **Silence:** the most common form of turning a blind eye. It’s just easier to ignore it all, even recognizing how toxic unconscionable behaviors and language are.
26. **Tone Deafness:** intentionally failing to recognize harmful, disrespectful, disdainful, and often victimizing language, behaviors, and decisions.
27. **Unfounded Accusations:** careless and often intentionally erroneous allegations which demean, deflect, disdain, irritate, agitate, and are often seemingly unanswerable.
28. **Vengeance:** infliction of injury, harm, humiliation, violent acts or the like, on a person by another who has been harmed by that person. (Dictionary.com)
29. **Victimization:** a personal state of psychological or emotional injury that is generally permanent. A state of adversity when a human feels helpless, hopeless, suspicious, put upon, and innocent.
30. **Vilification:** to describe something or someone with overwhelming vileness and villainous intent.