

## **HUMANIZING TRAITS: An adjective Checklist**

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*Vocabulary is the Everest of a Language*

David Crystal

If living is like mountain climbing, interacting with one another (in one or more of the world's languages) calls for boldly climbing the mountain of what I call "humanizing traits."

The list below, resulting from workshops on [Learning to Communicate Peacefully](#), is aimed at engaging you in assessing your own repertoire of "humanizing traits." Please check the items characterizing your positive traits and then ask yourself what the unchecked items show about gaps in your humanizing responsibilities. How do you think you can fill such gaps in your human actions? Then, in the spirit of Glenn D. Paige's [Nonkilling](#) approach, challenge yourself to list traits specifically related to a Nonkilling approach to Life. Be sure to add to the alphabetically arranged list.

AM I ...

- A - affectionate, altruistic, appreciative, audacious...
- B - beneficent, benevolent, big-hearted ...
- C - caring, charitable, cheerful, compassionate, constructive, cooperative, cordial, creative...
- D - democratic, dignified, dutiful, dependable ...
- E - effective, ecumenical, empathic, ethical ...
- F - fair, fraternal, friendly, forgiving ...
- G - generous, good, goodhearted, good-humored, grateful ...
- H - happy, harmonious, helpful, hopeful, humble, humanizing ...
- I - intelligent, imaginative, inspiring ...

- J - joyful, just ...
- K - kind
- L - LIFE-affirming, LIFE-protecting, LIFE-preserving, LIFE-saving, LIFE-supporting, LIFE-sustaining, light-hearted, loving ...
- M - magnanimous, maternal, meditative, merciful
- N - neighborly, NONaggressive, NONbelligerent, NONdestructive, NONdiscriminatory, NONmalignant, NONoffensive, NONpolluting, NONthreatening ,..
- O - open-hearted, open-minded, optimistic ...
- P - patient, peaceful, positive, patriotic, planetarily-minded, prudent ...
- Q - qualified ...
- R - reconciling, responsible, right-minded, respectful ...
- S - serene, sympathetic, spiritual, soulful ...
- T - tender, thankful, thoughtful, trustworthy
- U - universal, unselfish, understanding, unifying ...
- V - valorous, virtuous, vital ...
- W - warm, well-balanced, well-meaning, wise ...
- X – xenophilic ...
- Y - youthful ...
- Z - zealous ...