

ASSUME POSITIVE INTENT

Work from the assumption that people are good, fair, honest, and that the intent behind their actions are positive. Set aside your own judgements and preconceived notions. We all expect the benefit of the doubt – make sure to give it to others.

You planned a great vacation to the Bahama's. You finally get there and reports of a hurricane coming soon sends you running back to the airport. You catch a series of unplanned flights and you finally get back to your house at midnight. As the UBER pulls in your driveway you see a person in a dark jacket on a ladder climbing to the 2nd story of your house. As you reach for your phone to call 911, the person lifts a hammer and is about to smash the window. Your finger is on the button and just as you look up in the moonlight you catch a glimpse of the face of the perpetrator.....it's your mother! What's mom doing on a ladder at midnight about to smash your window? Do you call out or wait to see what she's doing there? Do you push the button and call 911 on your own mother?!

Since it's your mother who's about to commit a crime, chances are you will give her the benefit of the doubt and assume that she had a very good reason for this seemingly crazy action. But why would you give her the benefit of the doubt? Have you ever considered why with some people we assume the best of intentions and with others we assume the worst? What is the key component of having or developing this perspective?

This week, at the suggestion of one of your fellow workers, I have a little homework for everyone. What do you think the key component is for giving others the benefit of the doubt?

Have a great week and think about the "MOM factor 😊"

