

The Dark Side of Self Esteem

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The current generation of students has always been treated as special and important. While this has promoted positive qualities such as optimism and self confidence, research suggests that today's students may also feel increasingly entitled and deserving. Entitled behaviors include expectations of high grades for minimal effort, demanding attitudes towards advisors and professors, and a view of education as a product to be purchased rather than an opportunity for learning and growth. Entitled students are often academically disengaged and under prepared for life in the real world. In this session, we will look at the factors that contribute to entitled attitudes – some of which stem from within our institutions themselves. By understanding the forces that shape our students' goals and motivations, we can better address their needs and encourage their success.