

Insight Meditation Community of Charlottesville

THE PRECEPTS

- 1. AWARE OF THE SUFFERING CAUSED BY THE DESTRUCTION OF LIFE, I VOW TO CULTIVATE COMPASSION AND TO LEARN THE WAYS OF PROTECTING THE LIVES OF PEOPLE, ANIMALS AND PLANTS.
- 2. AWARE OF THE SUFFERING CAUSED BY EXPLOITATION, SOCIAL INJUSTICE, STEALING AND OPPRESSION, I VOW TO CULTIVATE LOVING-KINDNESS AND TO LEARN WAYS TO WORK FOR THE WELL-BEING OF PEOPLE, ANIMALS AND PLANTS. I AM DETERMINED NOT TO STEAL AND NOT TO POSSESS ANYTHING THAT SHOULD BELONG TO OTHERS.
- 3. AWARE OF THE SUFFERING CAUSED BY SEXUAL MISCONDUCT, I VOW TO CULTIVATE MY RESPONSIBILITY FOR MY OWN SEXUAL ENERGIES AND ACTIONS AND TO LEARN WAYS TO PROTECT THE SAFETY AND INTEGRITY OF INDIVIDUALS, COUPLES, FAMILIES AND SOCIETY.
- 4. AWARE OF THE SUFFERING CAUSED BY UNMINDFUL SPEECH AND THE INABILITY TO LISTEN TO THE SUFFERING OF OTHERS, I VOW TO CULTIVATE LOVING SPEECH AND DEEP LISTENING.
- 5. AWARE OF THE SUFFERING CAUSED BY UNMINDFUL CONSUMPTION, I VOW TO CULTIVATE GOOD HEALTH, BOTH PHYSICAL AND MENTAL, FOR MYSELF, MY FAMILY, AND MY SOCIETY BY PRACTICING MINDFUL EATING, DRINKING AND CONSUMING.