# **Urban**Polish<sub>TM</sub>

## Etiquette Newz.....From an Urban Perspective

by UrbanGirlz

#### October 2009

## Greetings,

There is no doubt the need for good manners is great in today's American culture. What's more disturbing is the disintegration in the manners of Black children who ten years ago would have never disrespected their parents in any way. This rapid decline has led to many young African American men and women illequipped to enter and thrive in the workplace.

In the past, etiquette was reserved for the elite and wealthy, leaving most urban youth locked outside the door of social decorum.

Consequently, in today's urban culture, millionaires are made overnight, and despite their sudden financial elevation, they are unable to adjust to the social practices beyond their own neighborhoods.

UrbanPolish is a new monthly etiquette newsletter published by UrbanGirlz, Inc. to expose the urban community to domestic and international etiquette protocol.

Each month UrbanGirlz Publisher and top etiquette experts will share rules on dining, business etiquette, image etiquette and much more.

I pray it will be a blessing to everyone who reads it!

Lady Trenette Wilson

## Ask Lady Trenette

#### Can you address your boss by his/her first name?

Yes and no. It really depends on relationship. Unless invited, it is standard protocol to address your supervisor by Mr., Ms., or Mrs. if married. In business, rank is extremely important. You will be viewed as disrespectful if you don't adhere to common business etiquette rules. Do you have an etiquette question? Submit your question to <a href="mailto:ladies@urbangirlz.org">ladies@urbangirlz.org</a> and get it posted in the next Urban Polish.

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<u>UrbanGirlz Etiquette</u> <u>Certification</u>

# UrbanGirlz Certification for Etiquette Instructors

On Saturday, November 7, 2009 women from across the country will gather for the UrbanGirlz Certification for Etiquette Instructors. This empowering certification equips women and men desiring to start their own etiquette business. Have you registered? **Don't** wait for things to change, be the game changer. Contact UrbanGirlz and prepare for your new etiquette business in the upcoming year.

### Did you know...

When shaking hands, the grip should not last more

## Gift Giving Tips

With Christmas around the corner, it's a good idea to brush up on your gift giving etiquette skillz....

**Children** - Books, games, and cute tote bags for girls are all great gifts for kids. Stay away from loud and messy gifts, their parents will thank you for it.

**Teenagers** - Teenagers want gift cards. Nothing says I love you like money in the eyes of teenagers. Make sure to read the rules that apply to the card usage including deadlines and limits.

**Parents/Grandparents** - At this stage of their lives, older people are not preoccupied with gaining possessions, but instead something of personal meaning packs a lot more punch. Great Christmas ideas include photo albums, trips and time with family.

#### A NOTE ABOUT RETURNING GIFTS.....

There will be times you may have to return a gift...Remember, if it is monogrammed or specifically made for you, keep it. Also, close family and friends who visit often want to see their present displayed on your mantle.

In all other instances such as: the gift is too big or the wrong color, exchange the gift discreetly.

than three seconds, or inlcude more than three pumps.

Great Etiquette Read....

A Lady at the Table by: Sheryl Shade

**Etiquette Quote** 

Hospitality is making your guests feel at home, even if you wish they were.

~Author Unknown

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## UrbanGirlz, Inc., P.O. Box 3641, Cedar Hill, Texas 75106-3641 1-800-291-6492

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UrbanGirlz.org | P.O. Box 4021 | Cedar Hill | TX | 75106

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