

#### **99+** For creating a Better Society ~ an initiative by IIMC and YB\*

# Read ~ to inspire

21 March 2024

"Beyond Discipline: From Compliance to Community" by Alfie Kohn is a book that challenges traditional disciplinary approaches in education and advocates for a shift towards fostering a sense of community and collaboration within schools. Kohn argues that punitive discipline measures like rewards and punishments only serve to control students rather than teach them responsibility and cooperation.

## The key takeaways from the book include:

Moving beyond compliance: Kohn emphasizes the importance of moving away from a compliance-based approach to discipline, where students simply follow rules to avoid punishment, towards a model that encourages intrinsic motivation, critical thinking, and autonomy.

**Building community:** Instead of relying on punishment and rewards, Kohn suggests creating a supportive and inclusive community within schools where students feel valued, respected, and connected to each other and their teachers.

**Encouraging intrinsic motivation:** Kohn advocates for fostering intrinsic motivation by providing students with meaningful learning experiences, opportunities for self-direction, and a sense of autonomy over their learning.

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**Critiquing traditional discipline methods:** The book critiques traditional discipline methods such as punitive punishment, rewards systems, and zero-tolerance policies, arguing that they are ineffective in promoting positive behavior and can even be harmful to students' development.

**Promoting empathy and cooperation:** Kohn emphasizes the importance of cultivating empathy and cooperation among students through practices such as restorative justice, collaborative problem-solving, and conflict resolution.

Overall, "Beyond Discipline" encourages educators to rethink their approach to discipline and prioritize building a positive and supportive learning environment where students feel empowered to take ownership of their learning and behavior.