

## COLLEGE STREET SMARTS (NONCOGNITIVE VARIABLES)

1. **BRUSH YOUR SHOULDER OFF.** Do you have confidence in your natural talents? Can you explain how your determination or good decisions helped you overcome a challenge? Before you can achieve it, you have to believe it!  
*Activity: Identify Your Positive Traits*  
*Activity: Identifying Positive Traits in Your Peers*  
*Activity: Expanding on Positive Traits*
2. **KEEP IT REAL.** Do you take the time to know the real you- your strengths and your areas for improvement? If you understand your abilities and strengths you know what it will take to become the person you aspire to be.  
*Activity: Balancing Act*  
*Activity: How did I get here?*
3. **WORK THE SYSTEM.** Do you know what the system is, how it works, and how to navigate it? In order to manage your own success, it is important to be aware of how the world around you operates. Knowing how to advocate for yourself, without becoming a victim, will help you handle and overcome discrimination in college and beyond.  
*Activity: Mattering and Marginality*
4. **MAP YOUR FUTURE.** Do you know what your life looks like in 5 years? In 10? If you don't know where you're going, you might end up somewhere else. When you prioritize daily goals related to the "big picture" you will know if you are taking small steps in the right direction.  
*Activity: Goal Setting*  
*Activity: Timeline of Your Life*
5. **RECRUIT A CREW.** Do you know the people most likely to give you encouragement, advice and guidance? If you are able to seek help when you need it, you will have the support to stay determined with confidence and newfound knowledge. Positive friends, mentors, teachers, and supportive family members will make great additions to your network.  
*Activity: My Support System*
6. **BE A LEADER.** Do you look for ways to take charge of projects or to serve as a mentor in school, church or your community? When you learn how to effectively organize and influence others, you gain confidence and demonstrate commitment. Leading others leads you to your own academic success.  
*Activity: Student Leadership Practices Inventory*
7. **SHOW SOME LOVE.** Do you have a sense of belonging and responsibility to your community? When you are actively engaged in making your community a better place, you get personal satisfaction in knowing that through your selfless efforts you can make a positive impact.  
*Activity: Giving Back*
8. **MASTER YOUR KNOWLEDGE.** Are you eager to learn more about things that interest you? Do you enjoy sharing what you have learned? By owning and sharing your expertise you will develop independence. Don't be shy: show the world your talents.  
*Activity: The Party Exercise—Explore Your Career Interests*  
*Activity: 7 Stories*  
*Activity: Listen to a Life*