

The Big Efforts Of Small Kids

By:Jasmeet Saggi (Grade 9)

We assume that adults are supposed to fix everything and they always know what to do. However, that's not always the case; sometimes children have to show them the way. You will never know when little children's small efforts will make a huge difference. Sometimes, we need to show adults the way to start a change.

The ice storm came in 2013, when I was only 13. There was so much ice and snow all over our neighbourhood by night that it became difficult to walk due to the ice and it was very hard to clean up. On top of that there was so much wind, and it looked as if all the trees were wrapped in an icy blanket.

Some adults had snow blowers and some needed help to shovel the snow. Although some neighbours had snow blowers they hesitated to lend it to their fellow neighbours because they thought they might say no. Some who needed help didn't ask for any help because they thought they could clean it themselves.

In our neighbourhood, there are about 22 houses and an estimated 44 kids. The majority of them are older than 10 years. We now knew that the adults are not going to ask for any help, so we children decided among ourselves that we would help them. So we divided ourselves into two groups. The kids who were older than 11 years shoveled and the second group was the younger kids who threw the salt. We went to the first house. The first group shovelled the driveway and then the little kids threw the salt.

Unfortunately by the third house, the wind blew so far and hard that the snow blew back to its place and covered the driveway and all of a sudden we lost our hope. We all were so confused as to how we were going to do this.

The parents of the kids, including mine, noticed that we were having trouble and we were doing it by ourselves. When we looked behind us we heard shouting and noticed that all the neighbours came out and were helping one another and lending their snow blowers.

When my friends and I went to the group of adults, we asked what happened. They said, “We are very ashamed that being adults and grownups we had too much of an ego to ask for help. You were so small and all of you, even the younger kids, were doing the job of cleaning the snow. We all decided that we should help. So we all decided to help one another out”.

All the adults came out and started helping. All of us started shoveling but this time we divided ourselves differently. The first group used snow blowers, the second group shoveled the remaining snow and the third group threw the salt.

Because of how fast we were working, we were done shoveling and cleaning the snow for 22 houses in about 3 hours. The adults came up to us and said “All you children have taught us a good lesson. Your little efforts in cleaning the snow made us realize something big”. We wondered what they were talking about. They said, “There is no age or too much ego to ask for help”.

Listening to this made us all feel so proud and from then on whenever any of the neighbours need help, somebody was always there. We would always volunteer to help one another out.

What we learned is that no matter how rich or poor you are, no matter how old or young you are, you could always ask for help no matter what it is. The little kids’ efforts made a big influence on adults. Sometimes kids need to volunteer to show the way. When someone younger than you teaches you something it’s in fact something to be proud of, not ashamed. This is how little kids’ efforts made a big difference.