

## *Finch College Maxims*

Finch College for Women existed in New York City from 1900 to 1976. It began as Miss (Jessica) Finch's Finishing School for Girls, and its alumnae include notable young women from all walks of life, ranging from writer and adventurer "Calamity Jane" Austin through pop music star Grace Slick to Tricia Nixon, daughter of the 37<sup>th</sup> president of the United States, Richard Nixon.

Although, as one wit observed, the Finch may have flown, the thought-provoking guidelines the school promulgated for its students are good human-minded principles for leading and living. Here they are:

1. Believing in people usually brings out the best in them.
2. There is always another side; suspend judgment.
3. There is always a solution to every problem. Do not waste time on self-pity.
4. Be considerate. Your actions affect others, and other people's feelings are just like your own.
5. Be kind. Remember that other people are as intuitive as you are and will judge you just as you do them.
6. Be sincere. In the long run, everyone will find you out and judge you by your true self and not by your pretensions.
7. Snobbishness of any kind is a sign of limitation.
8. Remember that recreation must be to re-create for work.
9. Remember that you must be worthy and capable of love to be able to give or to keep it.
10. Remember that you have a soul just as you have a body and a social self. Do not starve it.

Words fitly spoken, and advice worth heeding.

– Beecher Hunter