

The faculty advisor on my first casenote, Professor Witherspoon, taught me an invaluable lesson about motivation that I vividly recall even though it occurred more than sixty years ago. After reviewing my first draft, he called me into his office and praised my efforts, making me feel like a legal genius. Then he made several suggestions for improvement which I made eagerly.

At our next meeting he ripped my second draft apart. I left determined to make the necessary changes in order to obtain his approval. This process of lavishing praise followed by criticism continued for several more meetings until it finally occurred to me that Professor Witherspoon was using a clever motivational technique, one that has been useful to me during the ensuing years.

Richard Williams, Class of 1958