

THROUGH THE WRONG COLORED GLASSES

When we struggle to see the needs and values of others clearly it is rarely a problem with acuity— we tend to see 20/20. It is not a need for glasses; we already have glasses and therein lies the problem. The LION wears red glasses with horns on the sides, while the OTTER'S glasses are green and purple striped with goo-goo eyeballs that flop out on springs. GOLDEN RETRIEVERS have glasses that are a warm yellow with pink heart and BEAVERS are seen in black and white checkered rims without one hint of gray. It is these very glasses that create much of our problem with relationships. *We all view the world through our glasses and not through theirs.*

HOW LIONS SEE IT:

- Otters are too wishy-washy; there is a time to take a stand even if it is unpopular.
- GOLDEN RETRIEVERS get too caught up and concerned about how others feel.
- BEAVERS are way too slow and tied to the past, they frankly need to shift into over-drive!

HOW OTTERS SEE IT:

- LIONS are too bossy and always see only one way to do everything—their way!
- GOLDEN RETRIEVERS are simply too serious, they need to lighten up.
- BEAVERS are so rigid; they don't know how to have any fun.

HOW GOLDEN RETRIEVERS SEE IT:

- LIONS are rude and pushy; they don't consider the feelings of others.
- OTTERS are disappointingly too superficial.
- BEAVERS are more concerned with following the guidelines than checking to determine whether the guidelines are fair or even right.

HOW BEAVERS SEE IT:

- LIONS get lost in their BIG PICTURE and offer no "real world" examples and directions on how to get from here to there.
- OTTERS are so careless; they are forever making mistakes and changing their minds.
- GOLDEN RETRIEVERS are too sentimental and gullible; they would buy the Brooklyn Bridge from a man named "Honest John".