



The 4-H Member Who Never Came Back

It amuses me now to think that your organization spends so much time looking for new members – when I was there all the time. Do you remember me?

I'm the member who came to every meeting but nobody paid any attention to me. I tried several times to be friendly, but everyone seemed to have their own friends to talk to and sit with. I sat down among some unfamiliar faces several times, but they didn't pay much attention to me.

I hoped someone would ask me to join one of the committees or somehow participate and contribute – but no one did.

Finally, because of illness, I missed a meeting. The next month no one asked where I had been. I guess it didn't matter very much whether I was there or not. On the next meeting date, I decided to stay home and watch a good television program. When I attended the next meeting, no one asked me where I was the month before.

You might say that I'm a good person. I have a good family and love my community.

You know who else I am? I'm the member who never came back.

Source: Voluntary Action Leadership, Fall, 1984