

Shopsmith Forums - View Single Post - Hand Shake Agreement - and Honor - Mozilla Firefox

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Hand Shake Agreement - an... Shopsmith Forums - View Si...

About a month ago a stock picture of a teal Shopsmith stand alone scroll saw on was placed on CL. I watched and two weeks ago it was still listed. I contacted the poster asking if it was still for sale and if it was, could they wait until the 3rd for me to give them the \$300 they were asking. Her email reply was if I promised to take it they would [sell itself it](#) for \$200. No reason why she reduced the price. Of course, I agreed. It was an internet handshake, I asked if she could send actual photos plus the serial number. She tried, but they wouldn't come through (Hotmail blocked them on my end) and I wrote back saying the same. She swore that it was the same saw as the one shown in the stock SS photo and told me the serial number.

Soon after, the listing was removed. Nine days go by and I call as promised to get directions (about 80 miles away) and confirm a time to arrive.

The evening of the 3rd I arrive. She meets and greets and shows me the scroll saw. PRISTINE! In the ad and in her emails. she described it as dusty (no not THAT Dusty! ☹), however it is clean. PLUS she has the manual! (It has a 1999 construction date serial number)

I am certain that she had other offers after I contacted her, but she kept her word, the internet handshake. I'm fairly certain that that qualifies as honorable.

I don't disagree that much of society distrusts, but whose fault is that? Rather than try to discuss, we shout about suing. If your neighbors do something you don't like, do you go over and talk about it or just sit in your chair and get pissed? My Masters degree is in Conflict Resolution, I am a founding member of the Montana Mediation Association, created the Lewis and Clark Mediation Center and worked to get mediation in the courts (my Masters capstone). What did it accomplish? Not much. Much of society has relinquished civility [for legalfor legal](#) actions. Why talk it out when you can sue the bejeezus (sp) out of someone? Somewhere I read that we turn out more lawyers than teachers.

Do you haggle with someone about a price, trying to get a better deal (not talking about dealing with professional sales people - [car salescar sales](#), etc.) just as a general circumstance? For example, You (figurative you not actually YOU 😊) go to look at a Shopsmith. You figure it is really worth \$300. The seller figures it is worth \$300, so why do they ask for \$500 but you offer \$100? You are both start the conversation as LIARS! You lie about how much you are willing to pay and they lie about how much they are willing to take. What does that say about handshakes and honor when a simple transaction starts out with both of you knowing the other is lying? Children watch and learn form adults. They are taught by example that "No" doesn't really mean no, don't tell the truth to get a better deal, and on and on ad nauseum.

You want the situation to change? Be truthful FIRST. Don't wait for the other person to succumb to honor before you do. My belief is that being truthful is much like a smile, it's easier to get others to do the same if you go first.

Just my 2 cents

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