

December, 2012

I left my house at 8:00am this morning and walked across the lawn to my office next door. Went back to my house two hours later and, as I opened the door, I was shocked - papers strewn all over, my house in shambles... I had been burglarized - and while I was right next door. It was almost as if the thieves had been waiting for me to leave in the morning, and keeping one eye cocked for my return as they ransacked my house.

They had entered by removing an air conditioner from my first floor bedroom window at the back of the house and just climbed right in – trashing everything in their path in their search for money and valuables.

Fortunately, we don't keep cash or our credit cards in our home and the few collectibles we have are insured but the episode was nerve racking nevertheless. You never can truly appreciate the comfort of an orderly existence until it's shattered by such an invasion...

I started my school visitations this week to my 134 Feinstein Leadership Schools – bringing my message of good will to our Jr. Scholars that they can make a positive difference in the world by helping others. This is the 20th year of my Program and it never ceases to amaze me how youngsters as young as four quickly bond to my message of bringing smiles to the faces of people by doing good deeds. Now, hardly a day goes by that I don't receive an email from someone telling me how my message had positively impacted on their lives. So, now I strike out to greet another generation – the sons and daughters of my Feinstein Jr. Scholars of years ago. 134 Feinstein Leadership Schools in Rhode Island and on the border of Massachusetts, and four schools in other countries named in honor of our Jr. Scholars - all who have pledged to promote the values of caring and compassion. Over 100,000 boys and girls in all to date. So many of our former Feinstein Jr. Scholars have told me over the years how much I have enriched their lives. I hope they know how much they have enriched mine.

Your friend,

Alan Shawn Feinstein