Example for Youth?

To the Editor:

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It is most unfair to blame the younger generation for the decline in manners, to call them "punks," "effete snobs," etc., and to insist that they are incapable of expressing gratitude.

Consider the example set by our Secretary of State. For years the North Vietnamese have been importuned to reveal the names of U.S. prisoners of war but, when they recently did, Mr. Rogers denounced their action as "a contemptible maneuver . . . for propaganda purposes."

CHARLES J. COE Brooklyn, Dec. 24, 1970