

# Opinion



## Free Press Viewpoint

### It's no 'secret' that God's in our schools

We get all kinds of e-mails. Sometimes we are literally smothered by the number. And that's okay, although most of it would come under the category of junk mail. Much of it goes into the trash without being opened. After a while you learn what's legit and what's not.

This past week, in particular, I had received a number of e-mails all dealing with the same situation. It carries the title, "Just Suppose." Here is a very brief taste of what it says:

"JUST SUPPOSE that at every ball game, graduation, prom, etc., someone who has had enough of stupid, anti historical court decisions had the guts to start reciting the Lord's Prayer loudly, and others joined in, then more, until hundreds participated.

"And JUST SUPPOSE this spread all over our land until this became standard practice in hundreds of schools — then thousands then tens of thousands.

"Just what would local school boards do? Expel half the student body? (They need their jobs and federal funding far too much to do that.)

"What would a Federal district court do? Order hundreds of nonviolent, decent minors jailed? Or thousands?

"Just what would the Supreme Court do about it — issue more edicts?

"What if millions decided the Supreme Court was out of its league and said, 'So what?'"

You get the drift.

If this were to happen, chaos would certainly reign. Kiss our democracy good-bye. I (and seldom do I use "I" in an editorial but this is a personal observation) think if those behind the "Just Suppose" theory would step back and take a deep breath, they would find that God is at every football game, every basketball game, every wrestling match, in every school and in every place they want us to believe he isn't.

God is in Colby High School. He's in the middle school and the elementary school. He in the college classrooms. He's never left. They want us to believe He was kicked out.

So, how do I know this? Because He is in my heart, your heart and hearts of our children, and when they enter through the doors of our public schools He enters with them. And there's not a thing anyone can do about that.

He's in your heart at every athletic event you attend, in every public building you enter. I never believed you needed a public showing of your love and dedication to make religion work. That's between you and your creator. Occasionally during the workday I will take a minute or two from my computer and reflect on His goodness. At times I even stop by my church during the day for a brief break. I don't sound the charge for hundreds or thousands of people to follow me there.

I sometimes worry that those who would have all of us who believe join a massive outpouring to "set things right," will find there is nothing at the end of the rally. Nothing but bewildered people scratching their heads and wondering "what was that all about?" We sometimes fall victim to things that sound good.

God's in your heart. Where it counts. And you can take Him wherever you please.

Tom A. Dreiling, publisher

Comments to any opinions expressed on this page are encouraged. E-mail [td@nwkansas.com](mailto:td@nwkansas.com), fax (785) 462-7749, call 462-3963.

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## Just stick to the facts

OH, how those weather folks get to me. The television weatherman, map in background, states, "It's very cold out there this morning. Better bundle up before heading outdoors!" Key words, "...cold out there..." Why does he say that? Does he think we viewers are perhaps a bit slow on the trigger? That we might think he is referring to how cold it is in his studio? Why, Mr. Weatherman, do you not simply say, "It's very cold this morning," and let the words "out there" out of the conversation? And then to further insult our intelligence, he tells us how to dress before going outside. We know how...I think we know how. Been doing it for a long time. Just the facts, weather makers, the facts, like, "It's 6 degrees above zero this morning." Trust us, we'll know what you mean.

SPEAKING of weather, I was looking over the chart from the Northwest Research-Extension Center this morning and I notice where our precipitation for the month stands at 0.07 inches with a total snowfall for the month of 1.5 inches. That may not sound like much, but when you compare those number with the lack of numbers for January of 2003, well... The numbers last year for the month of January were: snowfall 0, precipitation 0. That's right, zeroes across the board. On four dates in January 2003 there was but a trace of moisture noted. Forecasts call for the possibility of snow this weekend. Let's hope that materializes.

#### OVERHEARD:

Payday at my house is like the Academy Awards. My wife says, "May I have the envelope, please?!"

Did you hear about the wife who's doctor said she wasn't well and needed ocean air? Her husband complied and fanned her with a herring.

Then there was the woman who wanted a foreign convertible ...so her husband bought her a rickshaw.

#### MOMENTS IN LIFE

(You will like this))

There are moments in life when you miss someone so much that you just want to pick them from your dreams and hug them for real!

When the door of happiness closes, another opens; but often times we look so long at the closed door that we don't see the one which has been opened for us.



#### Tom Dreiling

##### • My Turn

Don't go for looks; they can deceive. Don't go for wealth; even that fades away. Go for someone who makes you smile, because it takes only a smile to make a dark day seem bright. Find the one that makes your heart smile.

Dream what you want to dream; go where you want to go; be what you want to be because you have only one life and one chance to do all the things you want to do.

May you have enough happiness to make you sweet, enough trials to make you strong, enough sorrow to keep you human and enough hope to make you happy.

The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything that comes along their way.

The brightest future will always be based on a forgotten past; you can't go forward in life until you let go of your past failures and heartaches.

When you were born, you were crying and everyone around you was smiling. Live your life so at the end you're the one who is smiling and everyone around you is crying.

Please share this message to those people who mean something to you; to those who have touched your life in one way or another; those who make you see the brighter side of things when you are really down; to those whose friendship you appreciate; to those who are so meaningful in your life.

If you don't share it, don't worry, nothing bad will happen to you; you will just miss out on the opportunity to brighten someone's day!

Don't count the years — count the memories. Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take; but by the moments that take our breath away!

Have a great day.

—anonymous

SUNDAY is Super Bowl Sunday. Enough said.

THE COUPLE was well into their nineties, and had been married for over sixty years.

Though they were far from rich, they managed to get by because they watched their pennies. Though not young, they were both in very good health, largely due to the wife's insistence on healthy foods and exercise for the last several decades.

One day, their good health didn't help when they went on a rare vacation and their plane crashed, sending them off to Heaven. They reached the pearly gates, and St. Peter escorted them inside. He took them to a beautiful mansion, furnished in gold and fine silks, with a fully stocked kitchen and a waterfall in the master bath. A maid could be seen hanging their favorite clothes in the closet. They gasped in astonishment when Peter said, "Welcome to Heaven. This will be your home now."

Out of habit, the old man asked Peter how much all this was going to cost. "Why, nothing," the saint replied. "Remember, this is your reward in Heaven." The old man looked out the window and right there he saw a championship golf course, finer and more beautiful than any ever built on Earth. "What are the greens fees?" grumbled the old man. "This is Heaven," St. Peter replied. "You can play for free, every day." Next they went to the clubhouse and saw the lavish buffet luncheon, with every imaginable cuisine laid out before them, from seafood to steaks to exotic deserts and free-flowing beverages of every kind and flavor.

"Don't even ask," said St. Peter to the man. "This is Heaven, it is all free for you to enjoy." The old man looked around and glanced nervously at his wife. "Well, where are the low fat and low cholesterol foods, and the decaffeinated tea?" he asked. "That's the best part," St. Peter replied. "You can eat and drink as much as you like of whatever you like, and you will never get fat or sick or have cholesterol-clogged arteries. This is Heaven!" The old man pushed, "No gym where we have to work out?" "Not unless you want to." was the answer. "No testing my blood pressure, glucose levels, prostate exams or..." "Nope, never again. All you do here is enjoy yourself."

The old man glared at his wife and said, "You and your goofy bran muffins.... Why, we could have been here ten years ago!"

HAVE a good evening and a good weekend!

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## Download Tears 6.2 to install Guilt 3.0

We are well into the age of cyberspace communication and with it comes a new way of discussing old problems. A reader picked up on the following exchange and thought it would enlighten those of you who are still existing without benefit of a computer.

#### Dear Tech Support:

Last year I upgraded from Boyfriend 5.0 to Husband 1.0 and noticed a distinct slow down in the overall performance, particularly in the Flower and Jewelry applications, which operated flawlessly under Boyfriend 5.0.

In addition, Husband 1.0 uninstalled many other valuable programs, such as Romance 9.5 and Personal Attention 6.5 and then installed undesirable programs such as: NFL 5.0, NHL 4.3, MLB 3.0, and NBA 3.6.

Conversation 8.0 no longer runs; it simply crashes the system.

I've tried running Nagging 5.3 to fix these problems, to no avail.

What can I do?

#### T D

##### • At Week's End

Signed, Desperate

#### Dear Desperate:

First keep in mind, Boyfriend 5.0 is an Entertainment Package, while Husband 1.0 is an Operating System.

Try to enter the command: C:/ ITHOUGHTYOULOVEDME to download Tears 6.2, which should automatically install Guilt 3.0.

If that application works as designed, Husband 1.0 should then automatically run the applications Jewelry 2.0 and Flowers 3.5.

But remember, overuse of the above application can cause Husband 1.0 to default to Grumpy Silence 2.5, Happy Hour 7.0, or Beer 6.1.

WARNING: Beer 6.1 is a very nasty program that will create Snoring Loudly.

CAUTION: Whatever you do, DO NOT install Mother-in-law. This is not a supported application and will crash Husband 1.0.

In summary, Husband 1.0 is a great program, but it does have limited memory and cannot learn new applications quickly.

You might consider buying additional software to improve memory and performance.

I personally recommend Hot Food 3.0 and Lingerie 7.7.

Good Luck,

Tech Support

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If you have something to share "At Week's End," e-mail [td@nwkansas.com](mailto:td@nwkansas.com), call (785) 462-3963 or fax (785) 462-7749. Or you can drop your submission off at the office, 155 W. Fifth. Thanks...in advance.