



American children's core knowledge base in English, language arts and history.

Thanks to the **"Common Core"** regime, funded with President Obama's stimulus dollars and bolstered by duped Republican governors and business groups, deconstructionism is back in style. Traditional literature is under fire. Moral relativism is increasingly the norm. "Standards" is Orwell-speak for subjectivity and lowest common denominator pedagogy.

Take the Common Core literacy "standards." Please. As literature professors, writers, humanities scholars, secondary educators and parents have warned over the past three years, the new achievement goals actually set American students back by **de-emphasizing great literary works** for **"informational texts."** Challenging students to digest and dissect difficult poems and novels is becoming passe. Utilitarianism *uber alles*.

The Common Core English/language arts criteria call for students to spend only half of their class time studying literature, and only 30 percent of their class time by their junior and senior years in high school.

Under Common Core, classics such as "To Kill a Mockingbird" and "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" are of **no more academic value** than the pages of the Federal Register or the Federal Reserve archives — or a **pro-Obamacare opinion essay in The New Yorker**. Audio and video transcripts, along with "alternative literacies" that are more "relevant" to today's students (pop song lyrics, for example), are on par with Shakespeare.

**English professor Mary Grabar** describes Common Core training exercises that tell teachers "to read Lincoln's Gettysburg Address without emotion and without providing any historical context. Common Core reduces all 'texts' to one level: the Gettysburg Address to the EPA's Recommended Levels of Insulation." Indeed, in my own research, I found one Common Core "exemplar" on teaching the Gettysburg Address that instructs educators to **"refrain from giving background context or substantial instructional guidance at the outset."**

Another exercise devised by Common Core promoters features the Gettysburg Address as a word cloud. Yes, a word cloud. Teachers use the jumble of letters, devoid of historical context and truths, to help students chart, decode and "deconstruct" Lincoln's speech.

**Deconstructionism**, of course, is the faddish leftwing school of thought popularized by French philosopher Jacques Derrida in the 1970s. Writer Robert Locke described the nihilistic movement best: "It is based on the proposition that the apparently real world is in fact a vast social construct and that the way to knowledge lies in taking apart in one's mind this thing society has built. Taken to its logical conclusion, it supposes that there is at the end of the day no actual reality, just a series of appearances stitched together by social constructs into what we all agree to call reality."

Literature and history are all about competing ideological narratives, in other words. One story or "text" is no better than another. Common Core's literature-lite literacy standards are aimed not at increasing "college readiness" or raising academic expectations. Just the opposite. They help pave the way for more creeping political indoctrination under the guise of increasing access to "information."

As University of Arkansas professor Sandra Stotsky, an unrelenting whistleblower who witnessed the Common Core sausage-making process firsthand, concluded: "An English curriculum overloaded with advocacy journalism or with 'informational' articles chosen for their topical and/or political nature should raise serious concerns among parents, school leaders, and policymakers. Common Core's standards not only present a serious threat to state and local education authority, but also **put academic quality at risk**. Pushing fatally flawed education standards into America's schools is not the way



Flack took flak?

### Parody video: Evolution of Liberal Dance

February 27, 2013 07:55 PM by Michelle Malkin

102 Comments



### Reps. Waters and Ellison insist House debt clock be turned off during Democrat speaking time

February 27, 2013 11:51 AM by Doug Powers

51 Comments



"Political prop"

### The White House Court Jesters of Sequester

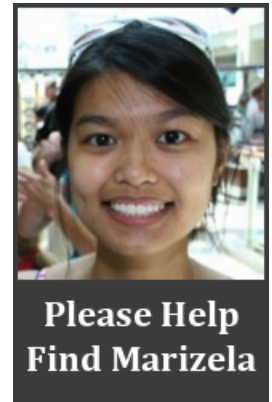
February 27, 2013 08:24 AM by Michelle Malkin

200 Comments

### Hagel confirmed as SecDef; Rand Paul explains 'yes' vote

February 26, 2013 10:34 PM by Doug Powers

93 Comments



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### NewsBusters.org

» Harvard Paper Warns Conservatives Not to Enroll There If They Intend To Criticize School Later

### Twitchy

» Gov. Jindal: WH is fighting Woodward instead of out-of-control spending; Time reporter sneers

### Betsys Page

» The Armageddon that isn't

### Twitchy

» Hilarious: Editor of The Nation boasts that her 'smart' interns 'have no idea who Woodward is'

### Hot Air

» Was Kerry winging it on Syria?

### Hot Air

» Video: How to win the Sequestrocalypse

### Daily Caller

» Global warming cools off

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» Will Obama Administration Condemn Erdogan Over Zionism Remarks?



to improve education for America's students."

Bipartisan Common Core defenders claim their standards are merely "recommendations." But the standards, "rubrics" and "exemplars" are tied to tests and textbooks. The textbooks and tests are tied to money and power. Federally funded and federally championed nationalized standards lead inexorably to de facto mandates. Any way you slice it, dice it or word-cloud it, Common Core is a mandate for mediocrity.

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Previous:

**Rotten to the Core: Obama's War on Academic Standards (Part 1)**

**Fuzzy math: A nationwide epidemic**

**Everyday Math = junk**

**Obama's Sputter-nik moment: Cash for Education Clunkers**

January 2005: **NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND, ACT II**

February 2005: **THE REVOLT AGAINST NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND**

**Stupid education fad of the day: "Mayan Math"**

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More resources/background/links:

**Barry Garelick: A New Kind of Problem: The Common Core Math Standards**

EmpoweredGA.org – Georgia activists: **Here, here, here** and **here**.

**Pennsylvania revolt against TERC Investigations math.**

<http://truthinamericaneducation.com/>

<http://www.utahnsagainstcommoncore.com/>

**Indiana: hoosiersagainstcommoncore.com**

<http://stopcommoncore.com/>

**"Related Websites" from Truth in American Education** has links to all of the following:

- Alabamians United for Excellence in Education
- Arizonans Against Common Core
- Californians United Against Common Core
- Closing the Door on Innovation Why One National Curriculum Is Bad for America
- Common Core: Education Without Representation
- Common Core Facts
- Hoosiers Against Common Core
- Keep Education Local
- Missouri Coalition Against Common Core
- Pioneer Institute Public Policy Research: Academic Standards
- Stop Common Core: Reclaiming Local Control in Education
- Tennessee Against Common Core
- United States Coalition for World Class Math: Common Core Standards
- Utahns Against Common Core
- Utah's Republic: Common Core Standards
- Where's the Math? Common Core State Standards
- Where's the Math? Standard Algorithms in the Common Core State Standards



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February 26, 2013 12:37 PM by Doug Powers

90 Comments



Exceptions

**Reporters to Jay Carney: Is an Obama-supporting organization selling access to the president? Carney: I don't know, you'll have to ask them**

February 25, 2013 10:54 PM by Doug Powers

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## See what others have said

Note from Michelle: This section is for comments from michellemalkin.com's community of registered readers. Please don't assume that I agree with or endorse any particular comment just because I let it stand. A reminder: Anyone who fails to comply with my **terms of use** may lose his or her posting privilege.

### Comments

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On January 25th, 2013 at 11:18 am, **Flyoverman** said: #1

You have to do something like this to dumb students down so much so that the premise regarding Global Warming sounds credible.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 11:18 am, **Regulus** said: #2

What it all comes down to is this: the days when you could leave it to the schools to teach your kids what they need to know to become well-rounded, functionally literate, informed and productive members of society — if they ever existed — are over.

And they're not coming back.

It is now up to you, the parent, to actively step in and fill in the canyon-sized gaps in your children's education. If you fail in this responsibility, then the devolution of the United States of America into Honey Boo Boo America will continue to gather momentum until its kinetic energy becomes unstoppable.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 11:22 am, **Rogue Cheddar** said: #3

Audio and video transcripts, along with "alternative literacies" that are more "relevant" to today's students (pop song lyrics, for example), are on par with Shakespeare.

Who knew that all those 'MAD' books and magazines that my Mother detested and I adored, would someday be 'relevant literacies'. I was born too early.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 11:25 am, **AmericanGirl30** said: #4

Thanks for all you're doing to expose this, Michelle. If we're ever going to survive as a nation, we **MUST** take education back from the left, destroy the power of the teachers' unions, institute school choice everywhere, and abolish the Dept of Ed and return education exclusively to state and local control.

It's a tall order, but we will only keep losing if we don't, because the left is molding our children's minds to be subservient to the state, and making sure they're chronically uneducated to keep them clueless and dependent upon politicians who promise them "stuff," too dumb to understand what those in power are doing to them.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 11:26 am, **AmericanGirl30** said: #5

*On January 25, 2013 at 10:18 AM, Flyoverman said:*  
You have to do something like this to dumb students down so much so that the premise regarding Global Warming sounds credible.

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Good one!

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On January 25th, 2013 at 11:30 am, **DesertLover** said: #6  
Michelle,

Having 2 conservative daughters that are school teachers I truly appreciate that you have taken this subject on and are getting the word out ...

Any chance this could be the start of your next book? ...

“Rotten to the Core” would be a great title ... 😊

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On January 25th, 2013 at 11:32 am, **chucklescdr** said: #7

“It is based on the proposition that the apparently real world is in fact a vast social construct and that the way to knowledge lies in taking apart in one’s mind this thing society has built. Taken to its logical conclusion, it supposes that there is at the end of the day no actual reality, just a series of appearances stitched together by social constructs into what we all agree to call reality.”

My dad would have said the same thing as: “Don’t believe everything you read or hear.”

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On January 25th, 2013 at 11:44 am, **Marshall\_Will** said: #8

Robert Locke said;

“It is based on the proposition that the apparently real world is in fact a vast social construct and that the way to knowledge lies in taking apart in one’s mind this thing society has built. Taken to its logical conclusion, it supposes that there is at the end of the day no actual reality, just a series of appearances stitched together by social constructs into what we all agree to call reality.”

Or essentially the basis for any troll post, hit piece or meandering accusation of Conservatives. Evidently some got the jump on CC.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 11:48 am, **Marshall\_Will** said: #9

MM said,

Audio and video transcripts, along with “alternative literacies” that are more “relevant” to today’s students (pop song lyrics, for example), are on par with Shakespeare.

How many times have I told you people “Smokin’ In The Boys Room” was a classic? Brownsville Station.., Chaucer..? *What difference does it make!?*

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On January 25th, 2013 at 11:58 am, **sumntman** said: #10

A few years ago when my son was a freshman in high school, his science teacher scheduled a viewing of “An Inconvenient Truth”. We discussed whether or not he should watch it and decided to opt out. His teacher gave him an alternative assignment – offer other explanations for global warming. My son offered that these patterns are cyclical and that volcanos have been shown to produce similar “green-house” affects, etc. His teacher laughed at him and asked how that was relevant now since there are no active volcanos..... We just laughed – my son got an excellent education that day. By the way – he is joining the marine corps in a few months and will be fighting for this country (hopefully they will still be allowed to carry those scary-looking weapons)...

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On January 25th, 2013 at 11:59 am, **Marshall\_Will** said: #11

Whan that April with his showers soote  
The drought of March hath piercèd to the root  
And bathèd every vein in such liquor rootlet  
Of which virtúe engendered is the flower;

How you doin' out there? Y'ever seem to have one of those days where it just seems like everybody's gettin' on your case, from your teacher all the way down to your best girlfriend? Well, y'know, I used to have 'em just about all the time. But I found a way to get out of 'em. Let me tell you about it!

How does that make you students *feel*?

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On January 25th, 2013 at 12:00 pm, **AlohaGuy** said: #12

Who knew that all those 'MAD' books and magazines that my Mother detested and I adored, would someday be 'relevant literacies'. I was born too early.

Knew a music teacher who, when parents would say "Why don't you use rock songs?" would answer, "The same reason we don't use comic books in English class." Obviously that was looong ago.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 12:01 pm, **AlohaGuy** said: #13

Jacques Derrida

If you ever need to induce a coma, read some of his work. By the second paragraph you'll be unconscious.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 12:04 pm, **AlohaGuy** said: #14

Under Common Core, classics such as "To Kill a Mockingbird" and "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" are of no more academic value than the pages of the Federal Register or the Federal Reserve archives — or a pro-Obamacare opinion essay in The New Yorker. Audio and video transcripts, along with "alternative literacies" that are more "relevant" to today's students (pop song lyrics, for example), are on par with Shakespeare.

The great works of literature are thought-provoking – something the left finds alarming. What if little Johnny and Janie learn to think for themselves?

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On January 25th, 2013 at 12:07 pm, **AlohaGuy** said: #15

His teacher laughed at him and asked how that was relevant now since there are no active volcanos....

I guess that thing spewing lava and vog a couple of islands over must be something else.

On January 25th, 2013 at 12:08 pm, *AlohaGuy* said: #16  
If King Lear was a color – what color would he be?

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On January 25th, 2013 at 12:14 pm, *Mister P* said: #17

Writer Robert Locke described the nihilistic movement best: “It is based on the proposition that the apparently real world is in fact a vast social construct and that the way to knowledge lies in taking apart in one’s mind this thing society has built. Taken to its logical conclusion, it supposes that there is at the end of the day no actual reality, just a series of appearances stitched together by social constructs into what we all agree to call reality.”

Of course this is solipsism and it is logically inconsistent. Since they are trying to CHANGE the perception of reality by changing the curriculum and standards. In fact Relativism always falls on its sword and is untenable. The Hindus figured this out and talk about the UNKNOWABLE absolute.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 12:17 pm, *Marshall Will* said: #18

Because we all know how well The Blue Man School thing worked out..?

The Blue School is one big play date in desperate need of adult supervision.

Parents are yanking their kids out of the “progressive,” \$32,000 per-year private school founded by the Blue Man Group — **which has no books and no tests — because their kids are barely learning to read,** The Post has learned.

One mother, who is yanking her son at the end of the school year, complained that the school is “unstructured.”

“It’s true,” she said when asked if her kid was struggling to read.

In all, she added, four of her son’s first-grade classmates are leaving the Financial District institution.

Problem is.., by the time Common CORE is done w/ us ( \$32 grand will look cheap )

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On January 25th, 2013 at 12:21 pm, *roadrage* said: #19  
Resist we much!

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On January 25th, 2013 at 12:37 pm, *DesertLover* said: #20  
swmntman ...

Best to your son ... He is about to embark on a journey to join a select group of warriors ...

Semper Fi ...

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On January 25th, 2013 at 12:38 pm, *greenfairie* said: #21  
Home school!

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On January 25th, 2013 at 12:49 pm, *drbage* said: #22  
This should be a concern of all Americans. Parents of children who may or may not go to college should be especially vigilant, because the effects of this dumbing down becomes most evident when the student transitions from high school to college. With the cost of college education increasing at almost double

the rate of inflation, the financial ramifications of having your child turn a 4 year college into five because of the necessity of a year of remedial work to get up to college level can be quite problematic.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 1:00 pm, **cheapseat** said: #23

Any parent of a child nearing college age and wanting to go to an elite school, you better have him attending a college preparatory school. Much to my amazement, when my daughter graduated #7 out of over 300 kids in a prestigious community school, I found that due to bussing the school had lost it's college prep status, which means they send at least 75% of their graduates on to college. To make a long story short, if it isn't a "college prep school" your class rank is irrelevant. The only thing the schools will evaluate is your SAT score, as non college prep schools include the silky jones school of how to be a failure, and if you graduate #1, ...

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On January 25th, 2013 at 1:13 pm, **SD1** said: #24

Ugh. The agony of struggling with 7th & 8th grade "New Math" in 1960's. Tears.Every.Night. My father was convinced I just wasn't paying attention in class until he read the material and tried to do my homework himself. I still don't know what Base 8 is, and was totally unprepared for high school algebra. The progressives have been pushing this stuff for decades. Thanks for continuing to expose this nonsense Michelle.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 1:14 pm, **Rogue Cheddar** said: #25

On January 25th, 2013 at By the way – he is joining the marine corps in a few months and will be fighting for this country (hopefully they will still be allowed to carry those scary-looking weapons)...

Nice! I just know you a bursting with pride. My son graduates from Navy boot camp next month.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 1:18 pm, **Rogue Cheddar** said: #26

On January 25th, 2013 at 12:08 pm, AlohaGuy said:  
If King Lear was a color – what color would he be?

Rogue: But teacher, didn't we already cover this with 'If Chap was a tree, what kind of tree would he be'?

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On January 25th, 2013 at 1:19 pm, **RedDog** said: #27

Another exercise devised by Common Core promoters features the Gettysburg Address as a word cloud. Yes, a word cloud. Teachers use the jumble of letters, devoid of historical context and truths, to help students chart, decode and "deconstruct" Lincoln's speech.

My sixth grade teacher told us in 1963 that this is one of several plans the communists would employ to destroy America. He told us that they would denigrate God, family, the flag, the Constitution, and the Founders – history itself – in their efforts to brainwash children and transform the country into a communist state. He was far more prescient than any of us imagined.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 1:21 pm, **RedDog** said: #28

Don't worry guys, Snoop Dog is going to teach the kids the virtue of weed so



none of this stuff will matter anyway.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 1:26 pm, **right\_on** said: #29

Common Core

It is just me, or does this reek socialist? I had a shiver run up my when I read this.

I think that the socialist leadership in this country feel like they have enough strength, and leverage, that they no longer have to hide their intentions. *Bam!* Higher taxes. *Bam!* Gun restrictions. *Bam!* Education disfigurement.

What BAM is next? Repeal of the 22nd amendment? I think these liberal savants believe they have the power to be unstoppable in their efforts to “change” America. Maybe. They’ve already done a good job in all but **destroying** America’s **moral compass**, and **concepts of honesty and ethical behavior**...and *dare* I say, the **economy**!

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On January 25th, 2013 at 1:26 pm, **stillontheroad** said: #30

Now what group does this remind everyone of?

“To know and not to know, to be conscious of complete truthfulness while telling carefully constructed lies, to hold simultaneously two opinions which cancelled out, knowing them to be contradictory and believing in both of them, to use logic against logic, to repudiate morality while laying claim to it, to believe that democracy was impossible and that the Party was the guardian of democracy, to forget whatever it was necessary to forget, then to draw it back into memory again at the moment when it was needed, and then promptly to forget it again: and above all, to apply the same process to the process itself. That was the ultimate subtlety: consciously to induce unconsciousness, and then, once again, to become unconscious of the act of hypnosis you had just performed. Even to understand the word “doublethink” involved the use of doublethink.”

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On January 25th, 2013 at 1:30 pm, **Hiraghn** said: #31

New Blog post: **Fire Lighters**

Related: John W. Campbell’s “**Hyperdemocracy**”.

Whether the former is worth reading or not (a bit of navel gazing), the latter, IMO, is well worth a read. Yes, both relate to Ms Malkin’s column.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 1:36 pm, **right\_on** said: #32

My sixth grade teacher told us in 1963 that this is one of several plans **the communists** (A.K.A. *left-wing socialists*) would employ to destroy America.

They also **got rid of their idol**, John F. Kennedy, for being a turncoat and (*gasp!!!*), **sounding**, and **acting** like a **conservative**. With the exception of Bobby, every *politically-inclined* Kennedy since then, has fallen back into line.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 1:38 pm, **canonly1** said: #33

O/T but linked on Drudge, **Holder begins gun control**

“Currently, law enforcement agencies cannot perform a NICS check when transferring, **returning** or selling weapons that have been **confiscated**, seized or recovered. The new rules would change that,

allowing officials to perform a background check on people who receive those weapons to ensure that they are permitted to own a gun.”

Emphasis mine.

So, now law enforcement can confiscate your legally owned weapon, in your lawful possession, and then do a background check (and add you to the new permanent database) to return your LAWFULLY OWNED weapon to you.

molon labe

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On January 25th, 2013 at 1:40 pm, **Hiraghm** said: #34

On January 25th, 2013 at 12:04 pm, AlohaGuy said:

They're not of as much academic value as "Starship Troopers" or "Citizen of the Galaxy", IMO.

(And of less academic value than "The Prince"... Pournelle & Stirling's, not Machiavelli's. Although Machiavelli would be of immense academic value in today's world...)

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On January 25th, 2013 at 1:44 pm, **NavyGal** said: #35

On January 25th, 2013 at 1:13 pm, SD1 said:  
Ugh. The agony of struggling with 7th & 8th grade "New Math" in 1960's. Tears.Every.Night. My father was convinced I just wasn't paying attention in class until he read the material and tried to do my homework himself. I still don't know what Base 8 is, and was totally unprepared for high school algebra. The progressives have been pushing this stuff for decades. Thanks for continuing to expose this nonsense Michelle.

Sorry you had such trouble with math & Base 8, SD1. I look back at my 5th grade math teacher and am grateful he taught us Base 2, Base 8 and Base 16. By my having that knowledge it made boolean algebra easier along with other geeky computer-coding.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 1:46 pm, **NavyGal** said: #36

On January 25th, 2013 at 1:14 pm, Rogue Cheddar said:

On January 25th, 2013 at By the way – he is joining the marine corps in a few months and will be fighting for this country (hopefully they will still be allowed to carry those scary-looking weapons)...

Nice! I just know you a bursting with pride. My son graduates from Navy boot camp next month.

Congratulations to the proud parents!

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On January 25th, 2013 at 1:46 pm, **Hiraghm** said: #37

On January 25th, 2013 at 1:26 pm, stillontheroad said:

Common Core is a mandate for **mediocrity**.

**The Highest Treason** by Randall Garrett.

On January 25th, 2013 at 1:49 pm, **DesertLover** said: #38  
Afternoon,

Due to the recent financial success at the box office all the film industry is searching for the next "Lincoln" in the **Afternoon PoD** ... enjoy ... 😊

On January 25th, 2013 at 1:51 pm, **Hiraghm** said: #39

On January 25th, 2013 at 1:13 pm, SD1 said:

My sister struggled with the New Math, iirc.

I bombed out of calculus in college (3 times...) because my highschool "math analysis" teacher "allowed" me to spend my class time at the school's one PC (TRS-80 Model I), while I spent my computer class (a class I was instrumental in helping him create) time helping other students with the computer. But, hey, I got a cute little pin out of it.

On January 25th, 2013 at 1:54 pm, **stillontheroad** said: #40  
On January 25th, 2013 at 1:46 pm, Hiraghm said:

Why knowledge is being lost and there is only information – I watch the 20 somethings at work and when asked a question, rather than think it through they immediately go to google and use the answer provided – their major concern is keeping their face book up to date. Another major crime is using tablets in grade school – these kids are fed information and they treat that information as gospel.

On January 25th, 2013 at 1:57 pm, **Hiraghm** said: #41

On January 25th, 2013 at 1:14 pm, Rogue Cheddar said:

On January 25th, 2013 at By the way – he is joining the marine corps in a few months and will be fighting for this country (hopefully they will still be allowed to carry those scary-looking weapons)...

Nice! I just know you a bursting with pride. My son graduates from Navy boot camp next month.

How do your sons feel about fighting alongside mentally ill splittails, in light of the new Pentagon policy of making war entertaining for our enemies?

You should be proud of your sons, my vicious sarcasm isn't directed at their courage and patriotism, but at the bas... people... who've put the final nail in the nation's coffin.

I hope Geraldine Ferraro is servicing Hitler and Hussein in hell right now; not

sure for whom it'd be a greater punishment, however.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 2:02 pm, **Marshall\_Will** said: #42

Hiraghm,

Good stuff! ( Why IS it I can picture Mrs. Mertz face to the smallest detail? )  
My own experience was part vessel, part lighter.

Random students were selected from my middle school for a daring early 70's speed reading course. A blessing AND a curse, reading for 'enjoyment' doesn't happen for people that rip thru an article in 30 seconds or less.

A year later as a freshman I signed up for "jazz band" *explaining* to the musical director I could read neither the treble or bass clef. No problem, we'll teach you! First after school session the guy is foaming at the MOUTH to make an example of me! Made it as protracted and awkward as possible.

The anger and resentment that clown instilled steeled my resolve to become the best guitarist in the school and later the entire Chicagoland area. Going on 54, and still knocking 'em dead.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 2:27 pm, **Hangfire** said: #43

Almighty God and Father,

Please forgive me for not being able to home-school my children, or send them to a Catholic School.

I wish I had it all to do over again.

Amen.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 2:31 pm, **Hangfire** said: #44

On January 25th, 2013 at 1:14 pm, Rogue Cheddar said:  
Nice! I just know you a bursting with pride. My son graduates from Navy boot camp next month.

I am full of joy for you. I also have mixed feelings, knowing that today's Navy is sadly not the one that I fell in love with back in '74.

I wish your son the best, and may he always have fair winds and a following sea.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 2:36 pm, **Hangfire** said: #45

OBTW, if anyone here wants to know anything, anything at all about the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.,.....

...just ask my 7 yr. old grand-daughter. She's been doing pictures of him, learning his speeches, making collages, and being saturated with MLK for about the last two weeks.

MLK is surely the most important person ever in America, nay, the World.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 2:41 pm, **stillontheroad** said: #46

On January 25th, 2013 at 2:31 pm, Hangfire said:

Or the Navy of 71-76 but then again by 76 the war was over and a lot of downsizing was taking place.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 2:45 pm, **drbulb** said: #47

MLK is surely the most important person ever in America, nay, the

World.

Let me know how the President's Day teachings go!

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On January 25th, 2013 at 2:46 pm, **Hiraghm** said: #48

On January 25th, 2013 at 2:36 pm, Hangfire said:  
OBTW, if anyone here wants to know anything, anything at all about the  
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.,.....

Oooh ooh.. ask her for me (I always wanted to know)...

When MLK brought down the Ten Commandments from Mt Sinai, were they  
written in Obama's own handwriting, or did MLK take dictation from him?

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On January 25th, 2013 at 2:50 pm, **Marshall\_Will** said: #49

Hangfire,

Last year this time I was in Lackland. The Nav has their MA school there and I  
was fairly impressed w/ the students. The gym on their side of the Base was a  
lot nicer so I got the chance to talk w/ the recruits and a few P.O's.

Unlike our pResident, you have to be a U.S and be able to hold a Clearance.  
They do a lot more than just let washed up BM's finish their time out escorting  
d'bags to the brig. Drug interdiction, sec. force type stuff. I think the ASVAB  
scores must be higher, judging by their vocabularies. IMHO.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 2:52 pm, **rocketman** said: #50

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HI NAVY\_GAL-#35, #36. As an electrical engineer I used binary, octal, and  
hexadecimal all over the place to figure out what was really going wrong with  
radar and missile testing software. And the real benefit was the ability to write  
a simple machine language test patch to fix an error or to set up and test a new  
operating mode without going through a slow, long software rewrite and  
rebuild effort.

\*\*\*

Within 30 minutes I could usually fix the problems. The software engineer  
would take a few days to do a proper fix of the errors. Meanwhile-our testing  
continued right on schedule-minus the 30 minutes patch writing and front  
panel switch keyin work.

\*\*\*

If you don't understand these number systems-you are computer illiterate. And  
will have a lot more problems working as a technician or engineer in the R&D  
areas.

\*\*\*

I hope that things go well for your son and the others entering our Military  
services now. Over the last 60 years our politically "correct" government has  
been far to willing to sacrifice our troops as cannon fodder to some  
dysfunctional dream of "touchy-feely" warfare. Horrible rules of engagement,  
failure to plan ahead and put their lives first-no matter how many of the  
enemy and their supporters / enablers have to die instead of them. We have  
paid a very high price in lives and injuries, and haven't really won any wars  
since this became acceptable.

\*\*\*

Not to mention Comrade Obama (PBUH) and His Ilk's open disdain for those  
who put their lives at risk as they defend and protect our lives and country. As  
The Good Comrade guts our Military and enables our enemies across the world.

\*\*\*

Approving the taxpayer paid gifts of 20 F-16 fighter planes and 200 Abrams

Main Battle Tanks to the new Egyptian Muslim Sharia government? Clueless, evil leaders here.

\*\*\*

John Bibb

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On January 25th, 2013 at 2:57 pm, **Hangfire** said: #51

On January 25th, 2013 at 2:46 pm, Hiraghm said:

When MLK brought down the Ten Commandments from Mt Sinai, were they written in Obama's own handwriting, or did MLK take dictation from him?

It was in Saul Alinsky's handwriting, and it was borne down the mountain on the back of ~~an ass~~ Nancy Pelosi.

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 2:59 pm, **Hangfire** said: #52

On January 25th, 2013 at 2:52 pm, rocketman said:

Approving the taxpayer paid gifts of 20 F-16 fighter planes and 200 Abrams Main Battle Tanks to the new Egyptian Muslim Sharia government? Clueless, evil leaders here.

Evil is never clueless.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 3:05 pm, **RedDog** said: #53

On January 25th, 2013 at 1:26 pm, right\_on said:

Common Core

It is just me, or does this reek socialist? I had a shiver run up my when I read this.

Their goal is not to educate our kids but to indoctrinate. There is nothing helpful or of excellence in their "curricula". I believe that they really want to destroy the ability of our public school systems to actually educate the children. The goal is a compliant populace that will never threaten their power.

More Lenin...

- *Democracy is indispensable to Socialism*
- *The goal of Socialism is Communism.*
- *Give me four years to teach the children and the seed I have sown will never be uprooted. Give us the child for eight years and it will be a Bolshevik forever.*

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On January 25th, 2013 at 3:06 pm, **RedDog** said: #54

On January 25th, 2013 at 2:57 pm, Hangfire said:

It was in Saul Alinsky's handwriting, and it was borne down the mountain on the back of ~~an ass~~ Nancy Pelosi.

LOL

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" --

On January 25th, 2013 at 3:11 pm, **rambler** said: #55

The problem the libs have with their indoctrination program is that there are a bunch of kids wanting their “dream” this and that. After years of wasting their time in public school and then to learn that they won’t have their “dream” job handed to them for time served, life for the libs won’t be very pretty when the youth go all OWS on their creators.

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 3:14 pm, **AlohaGuy** said: #56

. As an electrical engineer I used binary, octal, and hexadecimal all over the place to figure out what was really going wrong with radar and missile testing software.

...

If you don’t understand these number systems—you are computer illiterate.

The Patriot missile system had a timing error that would accumulate and get worse the longer it was on – due to decimal math on a binary machine. The Israelis found the problem and the workaround from the Pentagon was “turn it off and back on again” after it had been running for awhile – never specifying how long it could run without a problem. After the Scud missile hit our barracks in the gulf war – the system had been on for days without a reboot – then they applied the fix, the next day...

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 3:18 pm, **RedDog** said: #57

On January 25th, 2013 at 3:14 pm, AlohaGuy said:

After the Scud missile hit our barracks in the gulf war – the system had been on for days without a reboot – then they applied the fix, the next day...

I’m pretty sure I could knock a Scud out of the sky with my .22. Pretty sure.

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 3:19 pm, **Hiraghn** said: #58

Approving the taxpayer paid gifts of 20 F-16 fighter planes and 200 Abrams Main Battle Tanks to the new Egyptian Muslim Sharia government?

OMFG... okay, the F-16s are older... but Abrams? The biggest baddest tank on the planet?? NOBODY should get those but U.S. armed forces (and any citizens who can afford them... j/k).

I sure hope we’re increasing our force of Apaches and Warthogs. We’re going to need them once Obama is out of the White House.

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 3:25 pm, **Marshall\_Will** said: #59

rambler,

Thanks for finally bringing that out. Daughter #2 dropped by earlier this week and revealed she only knows (3) younger couples engaging the economy at age appropriate levels. ( FT actual ‘job’, no ‘loaner’ vehicles, house payments, kids etc. )

The rest are foundering, profoundly unhappy and longing for anything resembling their parents’ lifestyles. Late 20’s and you’re still living in an apt. w/ roommates, sharing some form of transpo and unable to take part in any

form of recreation. Sucks...

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 3:33 pm, **stillontheroad** said: #60

On January 25th, 2013 at 2:52 pm, rocketman said:

Reminds me of the month and a half school I went too concerning the DRE – Chinese Number Generators and Modulo 2 counters – First application I ever saw regarding CDMA with the Long Code/Short code X,A,B and C codes and the like.

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 3:46 pm, **Hangfire** said: #61

I miss BCD and nixie-tubes. Not to mention mag-amps.

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 3:50 pm, **Hangfire** said: #62

On January 25th, 2013 at 3:25 pm, Marshall\_Will said:

My sister-in-law here has two adult sons, and they both live with her.

One is married and his wife and son live there in the house also.

The other is twice divorced, and lives there full time, and has his two kids from both previous marriages on weekends.

It is not considered unusual here in Hawaii.

Thankfully, my 3 kids all moved back to the mainland.

Texas, as a matter of fact.

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 3:56 pm, **stillontheroad** said: #63

On January 25th, 2013 at 3:46 pm, Hangfire said:

Differential encoding and Viterbi decoding, SSMA, MonoPulse Feed systems and empedaldepresedpanchromatic Resonance and other highly abbiient domains. Just to name a few.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 4:06 pm, **NavyGal** said: #64

On January 25th, 2013 at 2:52 pm, rocketman said:

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HI NAVY\_GAL-#35, #36. As an electrical engineer I used binary, octal, and hexadecimal all over the place to figure out what was really going wrong with radar and missile testing software.

Fun stuff; the first programming language I learned was Fortran (with keypunch cards and everything!)

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 4:19 pm, **graysonret** said: #65

Why is conversational English always spoken in “simile” these days? It is really annoying and tells me that the people speaking can’t express themselves properly.

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 4:21 pm, **Collateral Damage** said: #66

ALL teachers unions have been (for a century)and ARE heavily supported by the Communist Party USA (cpusa.org)!?!?!  
What else does anyone need to know?????

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On January 25th, 2013 at 4:24 pm, **Hangfire** said: #67

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On January 25th, 2013 at 4:19 pm, graysonret said:

Why is conversational English always spoken in “simile” these days? It is really annoying and tells me that the people speaking can’t express themselves properly.

Like, what do you mean?

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 4:32 pm, **yohannbiimu** said: #68

Public schools of today aren’t for teaching children anything, only to make them part of a collective and to respond in same as the collective acts.

When I think of schools, I’m reminded of an old political cartoon from around World War I that depicts “**the perfect soldier**” (a gigantic brute without a head). This image better applies today with the generations who have been “educated” by our public schools. They are generating mindless drones who jump whenever they’re told by the “collective mind” what to do.

Hitler’s Germany did the same thing. It created a generation of idiots, who built their self-esteem upon their racial heritage and what their Fuhrer told them about themselves.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 4:40 pm, **graysonret** said: #69

Like, what do you mean?

Like, I try to talk to someone and all they can do is use smiles, you know what I say? Like, man, I have trouble talking with them, like, they don’t talk right, understand what I mean? Like, man, I have a hard time with them, like, they don’t talk good. They should, like, learn to speak, understand what I mean?

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 5:06 pm, **Marshall\_Will** said: #70

Simile and anecdote serve a certain function, but either strain credibility when leaned on too heavily.

What’s lacking in today’s youth vernacular is the ability to ditch the text-talk and wise up when there’s an adult in the room. I was always surprised at how inner city yutes addressed the skipper when at Captain’s Mast and how they spoke to each other in the chow line?

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On January 25th, 2013 at 5:16 pm, **Hangfire** said: #71

On January 25th, 2013 at 5:06 pm, Marshall\_Will said:

I was always surprised at how inner city yutes addressed the skipper when at Captain’s Mast and how they spoke to each other in the chow line?

I was always amazed at how the vast majority that went to Captain’s Mast were urban types vice good ol’ boys.

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 5:18 pm, **joyous1** said: #72

Thank you Michelle for the information on Common Core. My children’s school is hosting two meetings to inform parents on CC. I will be well informed before attended the meeting and voicing my opinion.

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 5:47 pm, **Marshall\_Will** said: #73

Hangfire said,

was always amazed at how the vast majority that went to Captain's Mast were urban types vice good ol' boys.

As LPO of V-3 Div., the D.O once told me, "Will.., do you realize it's a Thursday and we're 'not' at Capt's mast?" In the 80's, seems like pretty much all walks got at least 'some' Restriction/liberty card pulled? IMHE

Eval. Report writing; the Year 2020:

Will B 2 coo' fo' skoo. No prop's to OG's. He B lame fo' shizzle.

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 6:03 pm, **Hangfire** said: #74

On January 25th, 2013 at 5:47 pm, Marshall\_Will said:

Best line I ever had actually make it into a guy's eval:

*Petty Officer (name) is a waste of toilet paper and oxygen underway.*

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 6:05 pm, **Hangfire** said: #75

On January 25th, 2013 at 5:47 pm, Marshall\_Will said:

Second best line I ever had actually make it into a guy's eval:

*Seaman (name) is a zirconium in the rough.*

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On January 25th, 2013 at 6:12 pm, **Marshall\_Will** said: #76

Hangfire,

Wow, the wild west days of eval. writing! I worried even THEN b/c it seemed like I was either proofing or outright authoring eval's for the entire Air Dept. and while flattered at first, it wasn't long before some thug was "Got those evals done for my guys YET?"

Really? Timeout! I will 'show' you how to do (1) then you're on your own... Even then people wanted no PART of it. It wasn't until the O's caught wind some E-3 whiz kid was doing the majority that we started to look how off track we'd gotten. I'd even seen 1st Classes get sent to remedial English UNTIL they could write on their own!

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 6:48 pm, **DesertLover** said: #77

Evening,

Remember the old "Are you better off today than you were 4 years ago?" ...

Hard to make an educated reply when you are being fed false statistics by the MSM ...

Comparing the 4 years numbers in the **Evening PoD** ... enjoy ... 😊

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On January 25th, 2013 at 7:00 pm, **Hangfire** said: #78

On January 25th, 2013 at 6:12 pm, Marshall\_Will said:

And the Navy has gone from 4.0 evals to 5.0 evals. Idiots.

I made all my PO1s write their own evals, especially if they were up for CPO.  
Gawd, what an ordeal.

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 7:05 pm, **AlohaGuy** said: #79

RedDog said:

I'm pretty sure I could knock a Scud out of the sky with my .22. Pretty sure.

I'm pretty sure you could too. The timing issue involved where the radar thought the Scud should be a certain interval after first seeing it, then didn't see it there, and went back to standby.

---

On January 25th, 2013 at 9:40 pm, **rocketman** said: #80

\*\*\*

HI DESERT\_LOVER-#77. Nice "crib" card on the damage done to our economy by Comrade Obama (PBUH) and His Regime-enabled by RINO traitors. It was incredible to me that this information wasn't pounded home daily by The Mittster via Talk Radio, Internet, paid T.V. commercials, and in any / all primary / general election debates.

\*\*\*

A truly epic fail summed up succinctly! And anyone who thinks this turkey isn't going to come home and sock it to us all is beyond stupid. The permanent picture of the tornado on the highway in front of us is dead on target. We get closer to it every day.

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John Bibb

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On January 25th, 2013 at 10:29 pm, **rocketman** said: #81

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HI ALOHA\_GUY-#56, #79. I'm glad to hear that you survived the Saudi Barracks Scud disaster. There were a lot of strange stories about it-I never heard the correct story from someone who was there.

\*\*\*

Supposedly a second nearby Patriot Battery was down for scheduled maintenance and a third backup unit that should have been running had a hardware failure that took it down-it needed locally unavailable parts. The scuttlebutt was that those other 2 systems were running an updated software version that had fixed the timing problems, but introduced some other lower level problems. Supposedly the system with the timing error-the system closest to the barracks-was running the older build due to the battery commander not trusting the newer unfamiliar software.

\*\*\*

We went nuts doing round the clock testing for 2 months at White Sands working on problems that showed up before and after the Scuds started flying. There were many other radars, jammers, and Air Force assets operating that caused mutual interference problems. We sent some of our best field engineer repair types and Back East (Boston area) hardware and software experts to Israel and Saudi Arabia to help with new and exotic problems and failures that were exposed in a real war environment.

\*\*\*

The whole testing approaches changed drastically after the first Gulf War. Every new software build, improved capabilities, and new hardware was run for at

least 2 weeks around the clock to ferret out the problems that were missed prior to GW1.

\*\*\*

The blase slow Back East approach to fixing problems we identified really bothered us field types. Most of us older White Sands types had served in our Military. The bigger the organization—the harder to get it to fix problems quickly and properly. Back East works in a far more structured and micromanaged environment, and far less of their personnel have served in the Military. Having your rear end in the Scud target area gives a person a far higher sense of urgency than working in a Boston office does!

\*\*\*

The simulation / test system that I worked on was not deliverable to the customer, and all Back East support had been defunded years earlier. One good software engineer, one good hardware designer (me), and technician help as necessary did not have these artificial “like trying to get an elephant to tap dance” problems. If it was broken or unable to operate due to new system changes—we fixed / redesigned it as fast and as well as possible, tested the fixes, jury rigged it if necessary, and got operational within a few hours most times. And reported the problems and fixes for others to ponder and expound upon. Lean and mean at its finest—and done cheaply.

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John Bibb

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On January 25th, 2013 at 11:20 pm, *ChapBix* said: #82

#4. On January 25th, 2013 at 11:25 am, AmericanGirl30 said:

It's a tall order, but we will only keep losing if we don't, because the left is molding our children's minds to be subservient to the state, and making sure they're chronically uneducated to keep them clueless and dependent upon politicians who promise them "stuff," too dumb to understand what those in power are doing to them.

This goes a long way in explaining how we got Dumb and Dumber (ie. Grayson and DWS) in the House of Rep.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 11:24 pm, *ChapBix* said: #83

#10. On January 25th, 2013 at 11:58 am, swmntman said:

A few years ago when my son was a freshman in high school, his science teacher scheduled a viewing of “An Inconvenient Truth”. We discussed whether or not he should watch it and decided to opt out. His teacher gave him an alternative assignment – offer other explanations for global warming. My son offered that these patterns are cyclical and that volcanos have been shown to produce similar “green-house” affects, etc. His teacher laughed at him and asked how that was relevant now since there are no active volcanos..... We just laughed — my son got an excellent education that day. By the way – he is joining the marine corps in a few months and will be fighting for this country (hopefully they will still be allowed to carry those scary-looking weapons)...

Left to Barry and his ilk, they will only be issued one bullet and given orders to only fire it after counting to one hundred lest they hurt someone with it.

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On January 25th, 2013 at 11:30 pm, *ChapBix* said: #84

#18. On January 25th, 2013 at 12:17 pm, Marshall\_Will said:

That begs the question: Why is she waiting until the end of the year to pull him out if he is not learning the rudiments of reading? Is she also a product of this sub-standard government school education?

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On January 25th, 2013 at 11:45 pm, **ChapBix** said: #85

#40. On January 25th, 2013 at 1:54 pm, stillontheroad said:

On January 25th, 2013 at 1:46 pm, Hiraghn said:

Why knowledge is being lost and there is only information – I watch the 20 somethings at work and when asked a question, rather than think it through they immediately go to google and use the answer provided – their major concern is keeping their face book up to date. Another major crime is using tablets in grade school – these kids are fed information and they treat that information as gospel.

That's so they will accept whatever the lib fact checkers spoon feed them.

Knowledge is not the only vanishing property. How much genuine wisdom do you see out there these days?

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On January 26th, 2013 at 3:00 am, **AlohaGuy** said: #86

HI ALOHA\_GUY-#56, #79. I'm glad to hear that you survived the Saudi Barracks Scud disaster. There were a lot of strange stories about it—I never heard the correct story from someone who was there.

No, no – I wasn't there. Only know about the incident. No – can never claim something I didn't do. Would never dishonor the memory of those who served and died.

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On January 26th, 2013 at 12:29 pm, **rocketman** said: #87

\*\*\*

HI ALOHA\_GUY-#86. Ditto—my 2 years of Army draftee service were Ft. Ord, CA. basic training, and the rest of the time working as a Scientific and Engineering specialist at White Sands on radars, missiles, and instrumentation. The Army did a good job using us temporary help in jobs we were already educated for.

\*\*\*

There's nothing lower than someone who "enhances" (aka lies) about their service or claims to have served in combat and didn't do so. The well deserved "swiftboating" (aka telling the truth) about Juan Kerry sank his 2004 run for POTUS. Now we get him for Secretary of State!

\*\*\*

I worked with a WW2 vet who survived the Bataan Death March and never knew about it until he died a few years ago. We read about it in his obituary—he never talked about it.

\*\*\*

Other vets I knew who had served in combat in WW2 and Korea did tell me about some of their experiences after I got to know them pretty well. Most carried a lot of physical damage and emotional scars from their service. I have attended about 10 of their burial services at the Ft. Bliss, Tx. National Cemetery. Not many of them left anymore. Brave, decent people. One was a

woman who served as an Army nurse in the WW2 European theater. One man was a P51 fighter plane pilot in Europe.

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John Bibb

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On January 27th, 2013 at 7:12 am, **graysonret** said: #88

he never talked about it.

I could never get my dad to talk much about his WW2 experience in the Pacific. Just that a sniper once just missed him, and that once a starving Japanese got into the hot chow line. The cook held a knife on him with one hand and filled his plate with the other. Other than that, any questions would be greeted with a shrug.

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On January 27th, 2013 at 10:26 am, **Speakup** said: #89  
Propaganda in education is the only reason the cancer of collectivism has metastasized in this country.

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On January 27th, 2013 at 3:18 pm, **Rogue Cheddar** said: #90  
Thanks NavyGal, Hangfire, Hiraghm and all for the well wishes for my Navy son.

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On January 27th, 2013 at 6:45 pm, **Flyoverman** said: #91

On January 26th, 2013 at 12:29 pm, rocketman said:

Thanks for the post. As a former 14C00, I have many good memories of Ft. Bliss and McGregor Range. I remember General Bradley living on the grounds at William Beaumont Army Hospital, when I was there.

I'd love to go back there someday.

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On March 1st, 2013 at 9:30 am, **Rogue Cheddar** said: #92

Challenging students to digest and dissect difficult poems and novels is becoming passe. Utilitarianism uber alles.

Dumb kid (future senator): U r a h8r!

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