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Subject: Yikes!!! Way of topic...

Posted by [Gantt Kushner](#) on Tue, 22 May 2007 19:07:01 GMT

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but scary.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fJuNgBkloFE>

I know a guy who is fond of saying that people always get the government they deserve.

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Subject: Re: Yikes!!! (I meant to say) Way OFF topic...

Posted by [Gantt Kushner](#) on Tue, 22 May 2007 19:07:33 GMT

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"Gantt Kushner" <[ganttmann@comcast.net](mailto:ganttmann@comcast.net)> wrote:

>

>but scary.

>

><http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fJuNgBkloFE>

>

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>they deserve.

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Subject: Re: Yikes!!! Way of topic...

Posted by [Deej \[4\]](#) on Tue, 22 May 2007 19:37:23 GMT

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I wonder how many people didn't fit their profile and therefore weren't shown. From the apparent age of \*most\* of these folks, I'd wager that they are products of the public school system that has had free reign since the Great Society programs of the middle 60's started taking over and the dumbing down our educational system. I'd say, if anything, this is a testament to the effectiveness of the \*progressive\* agendas and teachers unions that have dominated our public schools for the last 35 years. I

"Gantt Kushner" <[ganttmann@comcast.net](mailto:ganttmann@comcast.net)> wrote in message  
news:46533f55\$1@linux...

>

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>

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> they deserve.

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Subject: Re: Yikes!!! (I meant to say) Way OFF topic...

Posted by [dc\[3\]](#) on Tue, 22 May 2007 19:41:28 GMT

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I can't believe anyone still falls for these "look how STUPID people are" scams anymore...

From Leno to Michael Moore to Borat this technique can be used to make any darn point you want to make.

You simply "interview" enough people and sooner or later you will have enough "stupid" people clips to not only get on TeeVee, but to feel a bit more smug and superior every time you watch your own hatchet job...

I've worked in TeeVee land and I can tell you that the story is told in the script and the edit bay, not in the street...

Now imagine this:

Find a University prez, interview her on one subject after another until she says something "stupid". A-HA!! Now we have a "stupid" University College President to get people all a-twitter about and \*everyone\* gets their 15 minutes of feeling superior...

Once we get out of the edit bay, that is...

Bollocks

DC

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Subject: Re: Yikes!!! (I meant to say) Way OFF topic...

Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Tue, 22 May 2007 23:55:32 GMT

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A friend of mine does language development with public schools in a major US city - the stories

he's told me about not just students' lack of education at the high school level, but also teachers (with Masters degrees) really is scary.

It's as bad as the video - no kidding, no editing, no pick and choose the worst - just random samplings.

I also do some work with an education development company, and a private investor who is working on improving education - the current state of education in the US is, in too many cases (certainly not all), far below survival level. The Leno comedy spot may be funnier when edited,

but in real life, it's troubling.

Dedric

"DC" <dc@spammersinhell.com> wrote in message news:46534768\$1@linux...

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>  
>  
> DC  
>

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Subject: Re: Yikes!!! (I meant to say) Way OFF topic...

Posted by [dc\[3\]](#) on Wed, 23 May 2007 01:20:45 GMT

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"Dedric Terry" <dedric@echomg.com> wrote:

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>he's told me about not just students' lack of education at the high school

>leve, but also teachers (with Masters degrees) really is scary.

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>worst - just random samplings.

Of course, your friend is simply doing another form of editing isn't he? That's HIS school system and his experience.

We sent our youngest to public school, and I was really nervous... Frankly, they are working her little butt off, and the class is learning well, and the teachers are really dedicated.

Most people, Americans, Brits, whatever, are NOT stupid. This editing to support a preconception is why Cohen is still fielding lawsuits from Borat...

>I also do some work with an education development company, and a private

>investor who is working

>on improving education - the current state of education in the US is, in too

>many cases (certainly not all),

>far below survival level. The Leno comedy spot may be funnier when edited,

>but in real life, it's troubling.

It's nothing at all, unless you were there, saw ALL the interviews and watched the editing. That is the only way to know the veracity of it.

I was the guy who provided audio feeds for the big Baby Fae baboon heart transplant event. I watched the story change from what I knew to be true, what I saw the media being exposed to, to their take on it, and I can tell you the change was significant, and that was when they were sympathetic...

These hatchet jobs are not the place to get one's ideas about education in America.

DC

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Subject: Re: Yikes!!! (I meant to say) Way OFF topic...  
Posted by [Sarah](#) on Wed, 23 May 2007 03:05:45 GMT  
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I'm kinda leanin' toward DC and DJ on this one . . . these things are meant to be amusing, therefore . . . think about it . . . if the majority of us

were that dumb/apathetic, who would laugh? They'd all be going . . . "I don't get it . . . "

I don't find it that amusing because it bothers me when anyone is poorly educated or just lacks curiosity, and I don't think anyone would argue that in general our education system needs some help.

The thought of those people voting . . . now that is scary. :)

S

"Dedric Terry" <dedric@echomg.com> wrote in message news:465384b3@linux...

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> "DC" <dc@spammersinhell.com> wrote in message news:46534768\$1@linux...

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>> DC  
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Subject: Re: Yikes!!! (I meant to say) Way OFF topic...  
Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Wed, 23 May 2007 04:27:51 GMT  
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DC - no actually, it was a cross sampling of several school systems covering probably a million or so kids total. Of course not all are lacking so extremely, but the public school stats are scary, even here.

I'm also not talking about the Leno comedy spots, but real world numbers. Of course, there are plenty of intelligent Americans, but there are far more people with little clue about basic geography, basic government structure, civic awareness, math and reading skills. A business entrepreneur I work for is on a board here in our state looking at public and social systems and organizations, education being one. What those comedy spots don't tell you is where we are really falling behind. Sure, those are edited for the sake of humor, but if you and I think our experiences with kids in school represent even 80% of the students in school, you and I are kidding ourselves (our son's school is in one of the top ranked districts in the state and is an innovative and progressive program, but it's hardly covering the majority of students in our city).

Sure, take the YouTube videos with a huge grain of salt, but also don't think that all is well in Pleasantville. It isn't.

Regards,  
Dedric

On 5/22/07 7:20 PM, in article 465396ed\$1 @linux, "DC"  
<dc@spammersinhell.com> wrote:

>  
> "Dedric Terry" <dedric@echomg.com> wrote:  
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> DC  
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Subject: Re: Yikes!!! (I meant to say) Way OFF topic...

Posted by [DC](#) on Wed, 23 May 2007 05:28:24 GMT

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Dedric Terry <[dterry@keyofd.net](mailto:dterry@keyofd.net)> wrote:

>DC - no actually, it was a cross sampling of several school systems covering  
>probably a million or so kids total. Of course not all are lacking so  
>extremely, but the public school stats are scary, even here.

Ok, now take clips of smarmy Borat goading hicks, chirpy Brit newsies sarcastically talking about an America that exists only in their gin-soaked brains, and smirky pothead comics drooling over their latest put-down, and take out all the idiots they edited in, and replace them with, oh say a guy talking about string theory, and another expounding on photonic computers, and maybe one more discussing the marine archeology of the Black Sea... People like this are not hard to find.

Then who looks really stupid??

There is no one, no one on earth, who looks more stupid than he who stacks the deck so he may find himself superior...

>Sure, take the YouTube videos with a huge grain of salt, but also don't  
>think that all is well in Pleasantville. It isn't.

A grain of salt? Hell, I say take them with a Colonoscopy and you will understand their true worth...

take care

DC

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