

Troll Needs to Give Japan a Break

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Recently, a 9.0 earthquake struck the country of Japan, triggering tidal waves that left the country in almost complete ruins. As of April 6th, the death toll was 12,648 and 15,107 people were missing; more than 360,000 people are in temporary shelters.

One particular response to the Japanese disaster came from vlogger “tamtampamela,” real name Pamela Foreman, who posted her video on YouTube. During the Lent Season, she prayed that God would open the hearts of atheists and non-believers to see and experience for themselves who He is. Foreman believes that her prayer was answered a few days later when the earthquake, “a symbol of God’s wrath,” shook the whole country of Japan and others who heard about the devastating results.

In her video, Foreman says that if God punishes America, our country would be doomed. Because of her provoking words, the young lady is portrayed as a “troll,” an internet slang term used to describe a person who posts inflammatory messages, whose main intent is to cause others to respond emotionally. Lucky for her, that just means she didn’t mean any hard feelings.

Even though the girl says that she

is Christian, her video contradicts her beliefs. There is more to religion than just praying for someone’s downfall because they do not meet up to a typical Christian’s requirements. Her attitude toward non-believers shows that she does not genuinely follow religion.

While she and many others who share her same beliefs are twisted in their ways of thinking, they do not embody the Christian faith. There are many other Christians out there who exemplify the faith, for they show and encourage love, grace and forgiveness.

Yet, she seems utterly devoted to her beliefs but in a way that is the opposite of how she should truly act. It may be true that God punishes to maintain justice, but He is also extremely merciful and does not like or want to make anyone suffer, showing grace to those who do not deserve it. The inconsiderate girl contradicts her own beliefs because she prays for the destruction of “godless” people when the Bible tells her that she should be forbearing and loving.

Instead of being so ignorant and claiming that she loves God even more because of the destruction of another godless country, Foreman should learn to love her enemies just as China put aside its differences with



Japan to help the ruined country after the catastrophe. The troll should not let emotions take the best of her, but rather find ways to aid the troubled nation in every way possible, even to the best of her ability. She should remind herself that she is living under grace and mercy, which should overflow from within her, causing the female to share that privilege with others. The dissembler should also review her basic fundamentals of her belief and know that God came to earth to save sinners, not to abolish them.

In a response video to those who criticized and threatened her, the troll with a heart of stone does not feel that

sorry about anything she said.

Her original intentions were to arouse anger. Her actions cause non-believers to not want to seek the God that she worships, since she portrays him as a God of revenge and injustice. Those who left comments and provided feedback for her video even said that her beliefs were “satirical and stupid,” something that was not worth learning about. It makes others hate religion for what it is, since they have experienced so much ignorance from people like Foreman. This defaces religion in general with her cold mockery of both a natural disaster and the belief system itself.

Too Hot for Words

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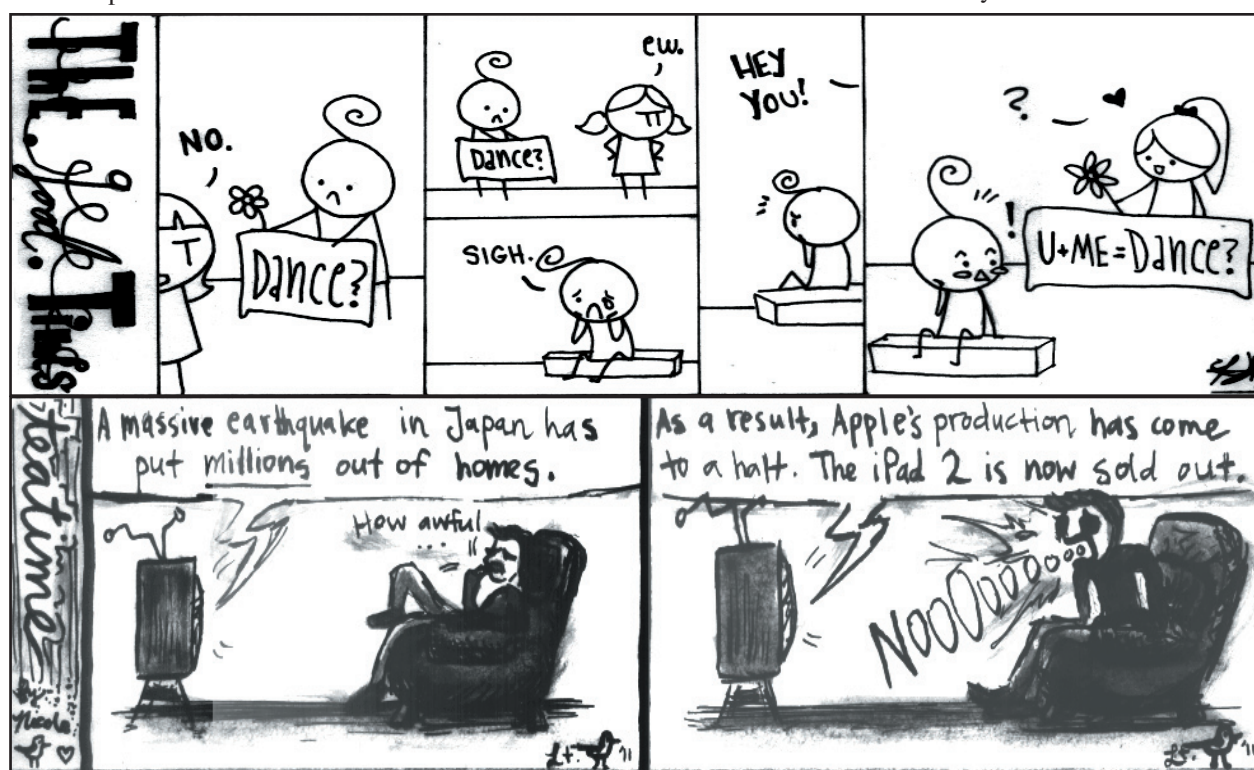
In an environment of learning, everything seems to be a test (or insult) of your knowledge. When the sign at the guidance office welcomes you brightly with a sign that reads “Recycling,” you have every right to take out your trusty editing kit and white that nonsense out of existence. Always remember to make the proper corrections afterwards, though, so it won’t count as desecration of school property.

Be careful where you take your lessons; our proud, state-recognized school library tests your ability to spell elementary school words with its colorful sign, “Kollege Korner.” If anything, we encounter the epitome of irony.

It becomes even more startling when officially printed signs display “Its the Law,” and we as civilians are forced to question the credibility of this statement, or when an advertisement promises “Gorgeous, Looking Skin,” and we as consumers have to wonder why we want our skin to be looking.

Other favorites include store banners that read “\$20 dollars,” sentences that use the word “irregardless” and chat logs that include the remark “your stupid.”

What’s really sad is that to many people, the previously mentioned phrases seem perfectly fine. These same people do not appreciate the particulars of the English language, and instead insist they are being innovative and simply recognizing Shakespeare by supposedly emulating him. To these people, we ask, “My stupid what?”



Double Standards Challenge Gender Equality

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So, here it goes: an adult man and a girl. All is fine until the man makes an inappropriate pass at the girl, and he’ll surely be charged for sexual harassment faster than you can say “case closed” at the bang of a gavel. Surely, that is justice if that kind of attention wasn’t called for. However, if that same situation were to happen vice-versa—between an adult woman and a boy—would it be treated the same way?

This situation has been parodied before in various pop cultural references. In the Comedy Central cartoon South Park, little baby Ike Brofloski was seduced by the much older Ms. Stephenson. Out of concern, his older brother Kyle reports the scandal to the police with the bare response of “sweet.” Although this is all in the name of fictional comedy, this does relate to the

double standard that persists when law enforcement deals with sexual harassment between any adult and an under-aged individual, in this case, a faculty member and a student.

In 1993, a male Virginia high school teacher, who engaged in sexual activity with three female students, was charged with 26 years in prison. On the other hand, a female swim

coach who had an “affair” with three eleven year old boys was only charged with a 30-day sentence. At the same time, the presiding judge viewed the activities with the younger boys as minor infractions upon both parties, assuming no harm was done during the court ruling, whereas the activi-

ties with the younger girls caused a great deal of harm.

The varied severities between the sentences show an obvious bias. Where the ruling falters is considering the meaning of pedophilia, the

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power of the “age of consent” laws and equality. Generally, pedophilia involves conduct without consent from an adult toward someone who is

under the “age of consent.” Regardless of gender pairings, all forms of pedophilia should be considered illegal and immoral in the eyes of the law, to make any exceptions to this mindset would place everyone in the bounds of injustice. By treating any case in this way, it

CAT-ASTROPHIC

Students Not Invited to GOP

Recently, Republicans in 32 states proposed measures requiring identification or proof of citizenship—which could be difficult to obtain—at voting polls. In New Hampshire, they want to give the right to vote to students in their college towns only if their parents have previously established residency there, and to eliminate Election Day registration. All of this is supposed to prevent fraud.

Wait, since when was voting fraud such a large issue that the voting rights of college students and minorities must be threatened?

Election officials state that voting fraud is an occasional occurrence and that these measures are the result of partisan politics. Democrats claim that since groups like young people and minorities largely support Democrats, this could simply be a way to undermine the Democratic base in many states.

While the donkey and the elephant duke it out, we’re left in the dust. As almost legal-aged adults, this attitude toward voting rights should disturb us deeply. The two parties have decided that the core issue is party support and “voting blocs,” not giving the people a voice. Call me idealistic, but isn’t that the principle our country was founded upon? I’m sure the Founding Fathers didn’t risk their lives for their descendants to squabble and fight for party control, rather than trying to represent Americans fairly.

The Republicans’ dismissal of students is also worrying. New Hampshire state House Speaker William O’ Brien justifies the measures that would disenfranchise college students by saying, “Voting as a liberal. That’s what kids do. [They] lack life experience [and] vote with their feelings.”

If that’s how you feel about students, O’ Brien, it’s no wonder they don’t want to vote for you. By generalizing all students as naive and unworthy of voting, O’ Brien alienated some Republican students as well as Democrats. But that doesn’t matter because he plans to disenfranchise all of them anyway. Anything to keep the GOP having a grand ol’ party, right?

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