

Indifferent predicament

Our society is perpetuating a problem by helping the lazy



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Everyone knows about our country's current education dilemma.

There is not enough funding for special schools for "gifted" kids, and citizens are complaining about increased funding, and therefore taxes, for special programs for "challenged" kids.

Solving this completely is beyond my capacity, but identifying the cause of it isn't. The reason isn't poor teaching habits or "problem" students.

It's stupid people! Please, stop laughing, and give me a chance to explain.

Thousands of years ago, the men-

tal skills of humans were still evolving, and we were hunters who had to fight daily to survive. We functioned much like the animals of the planet, fighting for territory and searching for food. Fight to survive, or become worm food.

Fast forward to 1998.

People now think they are the superior creatures on the planet. Because of technological advances and new ways of thinking, we have moved beyond survival of the fittest. No longer must we hunt to survive. Life is easy, simple and laid-back. And it is ruining us.

In the old days, people who slacked off and had no common sense to strive for survival merely died. If you were lazy, you didn't last very long.

But now, people who choose to be indifferent to the world still survive. Why? Because those of us who do what we must to make our lives better pay taxes so these slothful people can maintain a decent life.

The welfare system isn't the major problem, although by eliminating it, those who don't work would either take initiative or die off.

The world is becoming a place where screw-ups are allowed to run

amok, and the working class has to help them out.

I'm sure a lot of people think this is some harsh thinking, but the truth remains that as a nation, we're taking care of a part of the population that doesn't want to work.

The government allows this to happen, yet it's obviously flawed. After all, when students don't do their work for classes at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, no one picks up the slack for them.

A lot of people don't want to work. Hell, even I don't want to work until I'm 65, but I'm not about to mooch off the populous for the next 45 years either.

It's called dignity.

And it's the people getting married and having kids, raising them without instilling any kind of intelligence or zest for life into them, who allow this cycle to perpetuate. The parents are so involved in "Days of Our Lives" and "Jerry Springer" that their kids' education doesn't rank high on their priority list.

That attitude quickly rubs off. The kids go to school, without any kind of enthusiasm, and do poorly. It is hopeful the teachers will see this in the kids and try to correct it.

However, it's hard to convince kids that school is worthwhile when they go home to parents who don't care either way.

I'm sick of seeing people place all the blame on schools, the government and teachers.

We need to look at home to fix the problem. So many parents don't offer the right kind of motivation to their kids; they don't push them to read books or be creative or ask questions.

That leads the kids to be just like their parents: dull, lazy and unwise.

Don't get me wrong. I'm not saying that all parents are bad, because that's obviously wrong.

Rather, I am urging those of you with kids to make sure they are steered in the right direction. With a positive look on education, kids do better in school, have more fun and become better people.

I know I'm not the best student out there, but at least I'm trying.

My parents should take a lot of the credit for that. There was never a doubt that I'd go to college, and here I am. My parents cared about my education, so I did as well; and that attitude has gotten me a long way. A lot of my friends weren't as

lucky as me. Their parents took a "do whatever you want" attitude.

One of my close friends never graduated high school and still lives at home with his parents and delivers pizzas 10 hours a week for cash. I don't blame him. I don't even place all the blame on his parents.

It's the crazy society we live in that allows us to forget that life is more exciting when you know what's going on in the world.

Call me a moron and throw this paper in the trash if you think I'm wrong.

But if you really sit and think about it, you'll realize just how crazy we've become. We all need to slow down and get back to what's important: learning and gaining knowledge through experience and providing a positive learning environment, at school and at home.

Instead of sitting and watching some simplistic sitcom tonight, go read a good novel or whatever type of book pleases you.

Don't get caught up in the chaos of mind-numbing habits. Those with kids, don't let them fall into the pit of ignorance either.

Give our kids the tools to fix what we've damaged.

Smurfy socialism

Kids' cartoon is an advertisement for communism



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It seems lately that if you want get a rise out of someone, talking about religion is the best way to do it.

Allow me to hop on the bandwagon.

But since my religious philosophy is "whatever floats your boat is cool with me as long as you don't come to my house to give me a pamphlet about it," I'm going to talk about a religion nearly every person can relate to - Saturday morning cartoons.

Until the concept of sleep appreciation was discovered, nothing could equal the joy of waking up before dawn and, with a box of sugar mutated into cereal in hand, camping out in front of the television until 11 a.m., when all the stupid educational shows with a message came on.

Gosh there were some great ones: "Pole Position," "Fat Albert and Friends," "Mighty Mouse" and the "Muppet Babies."

Then there were some not-so-great ones: "Turbo Teen," "Heathcliff," that capitalist swine "Richie Rich" and "Dungeons & Dragons."

But one cartoon stood head and shoulders above the rest in every aspect: popularity, merchandising and, most importantly, twisted messages.

Know which one I'm talking about?

I'll give you a hint. Think "la la la la la la."

Of course I'm talking about the "Smurfs," you silly monkeys.

No other cartoon, including "Alice in Wonderland," could match the sick and evilly twisted world that

was the "Smurfs." And, like all good instances of subversion, the "Smurfs" were quite subliminal.

Don't believe me? Keep reading. You'll either agree with me or think I've sold my body to science one too many times. What you'll definitely agree with, though, is that I have way too much free time.

Let's start in a semi-logical order by examining the creator of the "Smurfs," Pierre Cullimore or Peyo, the name he preferred.

Peyo. Hmm ... add a "t" and an "e" and you have peyote - the perfect hallucinogen for someone to take if they wanted to create something as whacked out as the "Smurfs." Think about it; the show's focus is on little blue men who live in mushrooms, of all things.

The most disturbing aspect of Peyo was discovered after his death in 1992. In cleaning out his estate, it was discovered that the creator of this highly "moralistic" cartoon was actually a Nazi affiliated with the Ku Klux Klan who was a communist.

Keeping in mind that Peyo was down

with the commies, the Nazis and the Klannies, let's look at the Smurfs themselves. Except for Papa Smurf, they all dress the same. That is, they all wear identical pointy, white hats. Papa Smurf, their leader, is the only one to dress in red.

It's been a year since the last cross burning at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, so let me refresh your KKK knowledge. All KKK members wear pointy white hats, except for their leader, the Grand Dragon, who wears red.

Then there's Smurfette, in her white hat. Her blonde locks bounced with every step as she did nothing more than look pretty and water flowers.

But she wasn't complete without her high heels and above-the-knee miniskirt. For being the only female in Smurf Village, she fits into a perfect stereotype of the ideal Aryan Princess.

On the socialist side, the Smurfs are the perfect socialist model. There is no currency, and everything is shared among them. In their white outfits, they

are all but indistinguishable from each other, working as automatons to provide for the good of the village.

The anti-capitalistic message the Smurfs preached was epitomized in Greedy Smurf. As a lover of money, Greedy Smurf was disliked by the others.

Then there was Vanity Smurf. He wore a flower in his hair and liked to look in the mirror a lot. Do you think he represented homosexuality? Of course he did. He was treated poorly by his fellow Smurfs, sending a message to children that homosexuality should not be tolerated.

Proof positive that the Smurfs are communists is found in Brainy Smurf, the one Smurf who dares to question anything and think for his own.

Cosmetically, Brainy is a dead ringer for Leon Trotsky, the Russian revolutionary who was exiled to Mexico for disagreeing with Stalin and later assassinated. Like Trotsky, Brainy is ostracized by the autonomous Smurfs for thinking too

much.

Out of all the Smurfs, who was valued most? Why, it was the hard working Handy Smurf, who could fix anything and questioned nothing. In communist society hard work and manual labor is valued above all. Conversely to being taught to hate homosexuals, Handy Smurf taught kids to value labor and despise laziness.

The Nazism aspect of the Smurfs is portrayed in the villain Gargamel and his henchman cat Azrael.

From an animation perspective, Gargamel's dark hair and prominent features give him a stereotypically Jewish look.

In addition to his looks, Gargamel's name comes from a Jewish heritage, as does Azrael, who, in Jewish mythology, shares the same name as the angel who separates the soul from the body after death.

What made Gargamel so bad? All he wanted was to catch the Smurfs and turn them into gold. Rather enterprising if you ask me.

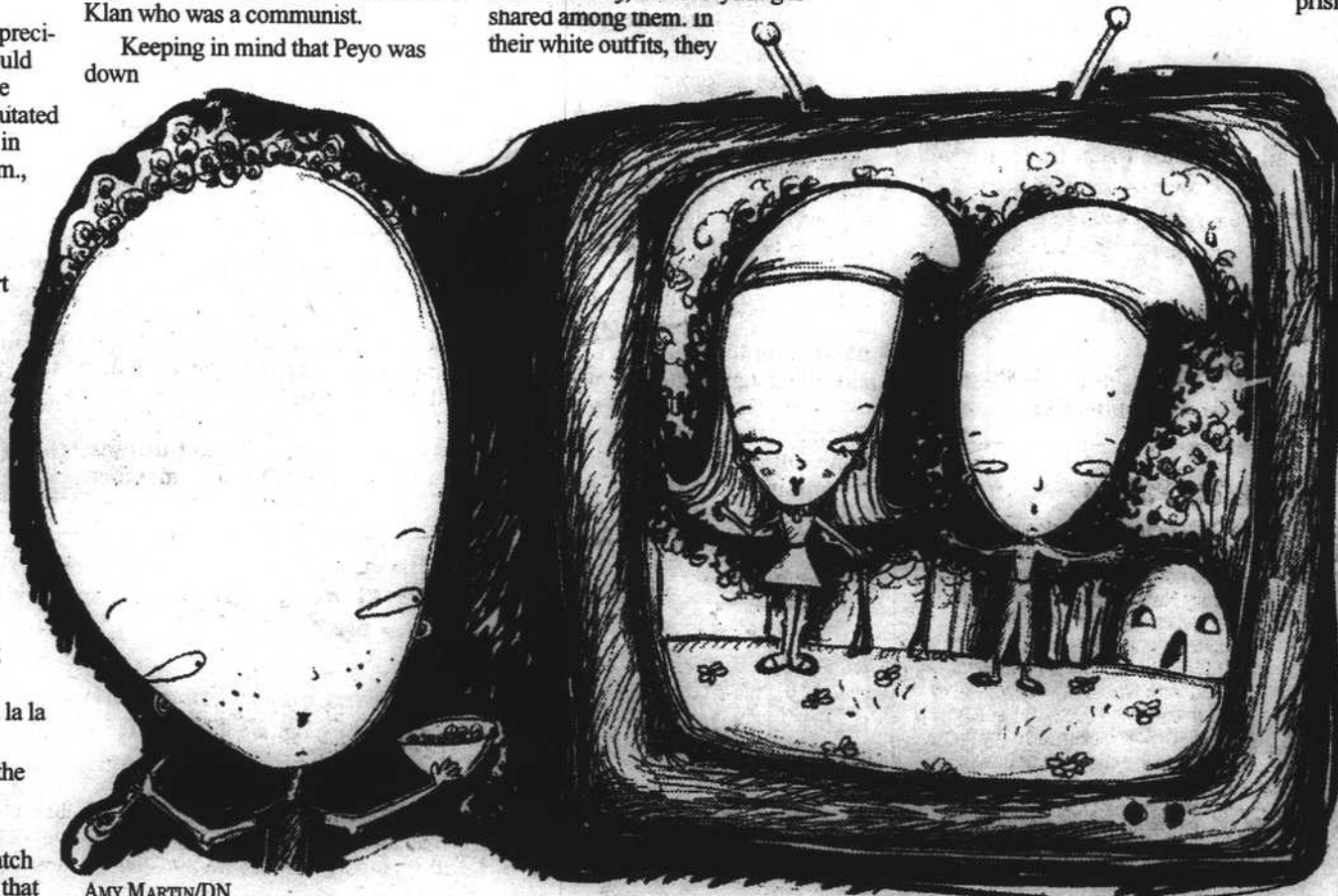
Again, Gargamel was an example to kids that greed (read capitalism) is bad, and Jewish people, according to Peyo, are evil monsters.

The anti-Semitism continues with Gargamel's magic. He was always whipping up a new spell to use on the poor innocent Smurf. Among the Nazis, it was a common belief that Jews were evil sorcerers.

There you have it, undisputed evidence that the "Smurfs" was the creation of a sick and twisted individual who used these cute, little creatures as the platform for brainwashing the children of America.

If Peyo had been a little better with hiding his Nazi paraphernalia, the truth may have never been known.

I suppose there is a bigger lesson to be learned: When watching anything, approach it like you would a transvestite: Don't trust what's on the surface.



AMY MARTIN/DN