

COMMUNITY STANDARDS

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I have really enjoyed reading the letters to the editor section of the newspaper lately. They have represented the passion and zeal of our community.

How refreshing it has been to live in this community for the past three years. I have lived in the Calgary area, Mexico and South Africa, and have travelled to most parts of the world for business. My family has been exposed to the harsh realities of communities where "God and Family first" principles are not practiced. I can say with gratitude and conviction that Cardston has something special to offer.

Cardston has reared, and then sent out into the world, some of the finest highest-standard individuals imaginable. These individuals take up important positions throughout the world in business and communities. These individuals build communities and are appreciated for it.

How then can a small town of 3,500 people churn out such a high number of individuals of substance? Perhaps they just came from superior stock, but that thought reeks of "Arian" undertones.

Could it be that they were sheltered just long enough, while they were young and impressionable, from the undignified influences that this world has to offer in abundance?

Could it be that while they were being carefully protected by those who love them, they were being taught family and community building principles in their homes and churches?

Could it be because they were encouraged to engage in a balanced diet of learning from the best books, participate in body strengthening sporting activities, sing with all their soul their part in the local play (which I have always been able to take my whole family to...if that's all Cardston offered, I would be ever grateful!), all while being able to squeeze in a few

kind acts of service?

Oh yes, there is a phenomenon at work here in Cardston, and if you don't see it, just go live in other communities throughout the world. Civic and business leaders throughout the world are desperately seeking individuals of such worth, and usually, at least in the business world, spend a lot of money searching for men and women of such high integrity.

I guess that's what this phenomenon is that is found here in Cardston - churning out individuals of such moral and honourable character that they can go in to the world and turn back the tide of family and community degradation.

I had the privilege of taking some history classes in University, and it became painfully obvious that when societies turned their backs on the bedrock principles of society building, (which is "God and Family first"), they invited the utter and complete ruin of their civilization.

I thought Mr. Hendericks made some good points in his July 15th posting, (him being grateful that Extra Foods has come into this community, and that other stores have a lower standard as well), however, there is folly and error in his words, "To be fair, we must all meet somewhere in the middle."

On the issue of pornography, (whether it is soft or hard), there can, and should never be any "middle ground." The young men and women that come out of this community didn't get to be so atypical by being typical!

If this community wants to nourish the world with men and women of high moral character then this community needs to embody and practice those traits that make possible such sons and daughters.

*Grant Hunter
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