

FEEDBACKFEEDBACK

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE AUTOMOBILE DRIVERS OF FREDERICTON AND THE FREE WORLD

Or

WHAT IT IS ABOUT WALKING IN THE RAIN/20 DEGREES WEATHER THAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU'RE GETTING WET/COLD

Dear Motoring Public:

The physical deterioration of our streets and highways presents a problem surpassed only by the attitudes of some of those who have occasion to occupy the periphery of those arteries. With a heartfelt desire to postpone the decadence of our society, I would like to suggest some rules which might, with no mean effect, be adhered to by all motorists.

I a) Never under any circumstances pick up a hitchhiker. The reasons for this are obvious. The would-be passenger, by refusing to pay taxi, bus, train or plane fare is undermining all that is good in our democratic way of life. He (or she, though it is assumed no respectable female would stoop to such blatant solicitation of favours) is playing on the emotions of the vehicle operator. Once the driver's defenses are weakened to the point where he picks up a hitch-hiker, there is no way of determining what the hitch-hiker might be able to do with his victim. The ever-respectable motorist should thus disregard feelings of obligation based on the golden rule theory.

b) Never under any circumstances offer a ride in your vehicle to anyone, with the possible exception of your immediate family, employer, or the minister, priest, rabbi (pick one) of your choice. All mother-loving, hardworking, God-fearing operators will understand the significance of these exceptions.

II a) You are king of the road. Never feel obligated to pick up any extra passengers. This is only logical. Since you never have to use the side-walk, why should you consider giving a ride to a ride to a pedestrian?

By doing so you would violate the pedestrian's right to the pursuit of happiness. Obviously he's walking in the rain because he wants to walk in the rain. (This also holds true for snow, extreme cold, etc.) Although it is in a motorist's nature to be considerate of pedestrians and not mind putting himself out to help them, he should be aware that such help is often not wanted (in many cases, frozen pedestrians have been known to resent the offer of a lift), and is thereby advised to ignore the pedestrian.

b) Be class conscious. As hitch-hikers in general are an odious class of creature and stand very little possibility of rising in status (Perish the thought that these vermin should aspire to be motorists!), the vehicle operator need feel no social responsibility, or fear future retaliation, (viz., Since all motorists lack the capacity to harbor resentment or vent frustrations on the road, any grudge-bearing pedestrian who succeeded in reaching the elevated station of motorist would, by definition, lose his hostile nature).

III Wave to pedestrians. (A long blast on the horn may be substituted in areas not restricted by law). Pedestrians are always impressed by a friendly gesture. It cheers them up when walking in blizzards or downpours. This practice is especially effective when the driver is alone in the car, and may at times elicit a recip-

rocal gesture from pedestrians and hitch-hikers.

IV Don't be hard to get along with. Play some of those little games that storm-worn pedestrians and frustrated hitch-hikers love so well, such as 'Get off my road or I'll run you down', 'Red light means Go', 'Stop signs weren't meant for me', and that old-time intersection favourite, 'Indicator signals direction guessing game'. More mature operators will disregard the last game and not bother using indicators at all.

It may amuse motorists to know that pedestrians have a few favourite games of their own, such as: 'Laugh at the man who drove by me three blocks ago; because he can't get his car out of the snowbank now', and 'See the funny man who doesn't know how to change a flat tire.'

Pedestrians are quite obviously out for the exercise, so why no help out by making them run to get out of your way whenever you get the chance.

V Take pride in the fact that you are a motorist. You will reach your destination long before the pedestrian whom you recognize is headed for the same place. You will also have the advantage of being warm and dry when you get there. Appreciate this. It is your right; and it is what sets you apart from the walking man. Doesn't that make you feel good?

Observance of these few simple rules should lead to an improvement of order on our modern thorough fares and an increase in respect for that great democratic institution: the automobile. Smile and be proud whenever you see the Motorists' Mottos:

- I) Help Stamp Out Safety Zones
- II) Only You Can Prevent Pedestrians
- III) A Man's Car Is His Castle.

Yours from the curb,

J.A. Ritchie

Dear Sir:

I send you the substance of this letter so that you may print it in your newspaper that all the world may read and take heed:

That it is a plot against unsuspecting students I am not certain. I do know for certain that students are getting screwed.

Is the manager of the SUB a social pervert who sits in that all powerful swivel chair of his, clenching his fists, gritting his teeth, and spinning in ecstasy all the thought of how many unwanted children he has caused to be born this month?

Truly there is no justice on this earth when students, cannot be trusted to sanely handle the administration of a vital service to their community without partaking of the corrupt practice of perversion and exploitation.

O Perfect One, its to you, the one with immeasurable power to spread the news of this vital plot, that I come on hand and knee with tortured soul.

Tell the world what evils are being committed:

The Student Union Building is selling inferior quality safes in its washrooms.

At first I could not believe that a student organization would set out to commit such a crime for the sake of a few dollars profit. Not the same organization which so benevolently distributed only a year ago the well meaning Birth Control Handbook. At first I thought that the source of my problem was not that these safes were inferior, but that I, because of my inexperience was using them improperly. Experience has proven that I was wrong. At my own peril I set out to find the source of

the problem. In tests using a variety of different brand of safes I kept a statistical record of my findings:

Breakage at a critical stage
SUB brand safes: 7 in 10
Other popular brands 5 in 10
Dislodged in critical
SUB brand 3 in 10
Other brands none.

The tests prove conclusively that the SUB Brand is the inferior brand.

I attribute this inferiority to several defects in the design of the inferior brand: First, it is made of relatively poor quality material that isn't durable enough to stand up to the wear and tear of normal use. Secondly, they are too short. Thirdly, the rubber band which I assume is intended to hold them in place, is poorly attached to the balloon so that it often comes off during use. If you are still not convinced, try one, but I warn you, at your own risk.

I wish to remind you of the implications of what our benevolent student organization is doing: One, only one, unwanted pregnancy, and I am sure that there have been more, would cancel the monetary benefits derived from the sale of cheap brands of safes. More important, the hardship encountered by the parents of an unwanted child cannot be estimated.

The organization which spends thousands of dollars for medical insurance plan for its members is at the same time condemning many of its members to a life of hardship through the sale, for the sake of a few extra dollars, of Russian Roulette contraceptives.

May there be an end to this injustice.

Persecuted

N.B. RESIDENCE CO-OP LTD.

The Co-op is now accepting applications for the summer, summer school and September 1971 (Academic year) for the following houses:

- 780 Montgomery
- 810 Montgomery
- 333 Charlotte
- 333 Union
- 555 Aberdeen
- and three other houses downtown.

Application forms are available from the Co-op office in Suite 102, at 780 Montgomery.

Applicants must be a student, faculty or staff member of UNB, STU, or TC.

Early application is advisable.

Applications will be processed in late February.