

Uncommon Sense

Providing Clarity, Promoting Intelligence

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Issue: # 134

December 31, 2016

Dear David,

The clock is ticking and the sand in the hour glass of 2016 is almost spent. Thus, I send you my final issue of *Uncommon Sense* for this year. See you in the new year in a few weeks.

OK, let's get started.

Ara Norwood



Self-Development

Goal Setting Pep Talk - Part 2 of 2

The new year is upon us. So let's have one final pep talk about your 2017 goals. I have just a few quick things to remind you of when it comes to goal setting and goal attainment.

First, your goals should be carefully thought through, and you should be judicious in how much you commit to -- because it is a commitment. Be mindful of what is possible. Don't over do it: Better to have 3 to 5 goals rather 11 or 12. Set goals that inspire you. Whatever it is you land on as your 2017 goals, make sure they cause you to salivate!



Second, look at them regularly -- at least weekly if not daily. Every week you should be reviewing your goals, assessing your progress, and noting any roadblocks. If you are absolutely committed to achieving your goals, you will make the changes necessary and take the requisite actions to forge ahead. Don't allow anything short of the destruction of your family and health to stop you for keep at it. You should commit to doing something to move you closer to their attainment every week, if not every day.

Third, you may opt to focus on some goals early in the year, while other goals wait their turn. Timing is everything and some seasons lend themselves to some goals more so than other goals. So do not feel you must be working on all of your goals simultaneously. But if they have a deadline of year-end, you must find a way to pull it off. (I myself had some very important goals involving my professional life that were mission-critical. And for the last two weeks, I worked nearly round the clock to get them all done. I finally crossed the finish line this evening at 6:00 PM! Talk about getting it done at the wire!)

Fourth, take satisfaction in accomplishment. When you achieve any goal, you have earned the right to see yourself as a person of accomplishment. And that calls for a celebration!

The Elephant in the Room

Responding to the Leftist Paradigm, Part 8 of 10

Continuing my response to the challenge thrown my way by Dr. J after he read Issue #120 of Uncommon Sense, wherein he retorted:

*It would be helpful to your argument to give examples of how the "Left," antagonistic as it appears to racism, income inequality, intervention into foreign wars, poverty, environmental destruction, Global Warming, insider trading, sexism, **Creationism**, pollution, disenfranchisement of voters, etc, poses an existential threat to the US. If anything, the progressives in this country appear host to its better angels.*

Dr. J is absolutely correct: the Left is antagonistic to Creationism, which is the belief that the universe was created from the mighty acts of God. Given that the Left prefers a godless society, it is perfectly understandable that they prefer to explain the universe from an atheistic world-view that focuses on science and naturalistic processes such as evolution. The differences could not be more stark: religious conservatives accept on faith the creation accounts of Genesis and other sacred writings that touch on the subject. The secular Left reveres, not the Bible, but *On the Origin of Species*, authored by Charles Darwin in 1859.



(Progressives, who accept uncritically Darwin's popular book, are evidently unaware that Darwin wrote a second treatise in which he postulated counter-arguments to his own theory of evolution. Darwin himself [entertained doubts](#) at times of his own theory.)

I should point out that informed conservatives who are also religious do not dismiss out of hand any valid science that demonstrates some type of evolutionary biology. They simply have found a way to harmonize such science with their religious beliefs. Not so for the Secular Progressives; they cling to godless evolution with a single-mindedness that allows only for mockery and laughter at the biblical accounts of the creation story.

What I find peculiar in Dr. J's comment is the notion that the Left's atheistic, godless proclivities to explain the cosmos somehow makes them society's "better angels."

And that, my friends, is the latest elephant in the room.

From Ara's Journal

Half-Staff

Sometimes I ponder what kind of horrific world this would be if we stopped flying our flag at half-staff simply because there are so many tragedies, in such quick and ongoing succession, that it becomes meaningless to do so.



I hope we never have such a world.

The World of Words

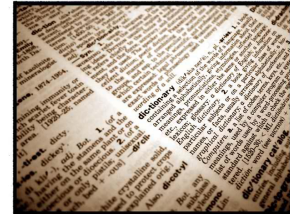
Listless

Building Your Power of Expression

Listless, adj.

Pronunciation: lis(t)ləs

Meaning: Lacking in energy or enthusiasm.



Usage:

- *He can't get out of bed in the morning because he suffers from listless depression.*
- *Listless she is not; a human tornado she is.*
- *I don't much feel like eating, as I'm in a kind of listless state at the moment.*

New subscribers, the Special Report "11 Ways to Beat the Odds" should have been sent out to you already. If you have not received it, please communicate that to me via email (ara@aranorwood.com).

For more information on my work, follow me on Twitter ("Ara Norwood"), or on Facebook (keyword "Leadership Development Systems") or via my website: www.aranorwood.com

Sincerely,

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