

## Girls Day Bogus?

May 07, 1996

In your article on "Take Our Daughters to Work Day" (April 30 Center), you say the world is unfair to girls. How so? What opportunities do boys have that girls do not? None. Girls are allowed, even encouraged, to do what they want. The whole reason for the day was to raise girls' self-esteem. A study, flawed as it may have been, "proved" that girls have lower self-esteem than boys. The study asked an equal number of girls and boys (if they were happy). The people doing the study used only the answers from the question "Are you happy most of the time?" Twenty-three percent of the boys said yes, only 19 percent of the girls said yes. Do these numbers still make it sound fair that we have a "Take Our Daughters to Work Day"?

Joe G., 13 Evanston

Not alone

L. Marie C. (April 23 Backtalk), it is good to see others that have the same beliefs as I do, considering that only 4 percent of Americans are atheist.

Despite my beliefs, I have no problem with anyone else's religion. What I do have a problem with are people who feel so strongly about religion it controls their life and they look down on others.

Never would I form a massive suicide with my followers or become a human bomb and blow up buses of innocent people.

I don't understand how people let something they've never seen control their lives.

E. S. Wayne, Ind.

Not with it

I am "unpopular." I am teased, taunted and stared at because of how I dress and the fact that I go to two classes, Circus Arts and Acting. I just need to tell all the unpopular kids, it doesn't matter what others think of you, it is what you think of yourself that is important.

And to all of the "popular" kids, all I have to say is this: What goes around comes around.

Alex F., 11 Golf

M.J. priceless

I think Michael Jordan should be on every single All-Star team. And his jersey should be \$50!

Rocky E., 10 Chicago

Proud heritage

In response to H.Z. (April 9 Backtalk), I understand how you feel because I'm half-Mexican and half-American.

I'm really proud to be Mexican, but at my school there are people who call you names and make fun of you because you are from other countries.

But one thing I don't do is deny who I am, because I'm proud to be who I am.

It does not matter how you look from the outside, what matters is what you have in your heart.

Ana F., 14 Bensenville

Gawk elsewhere

In response to Dennis Rodman's billboard being taken down (April 9 Sports), I think it should have stayed up. It wasn't the billboard that was slowing down traffic, it was the people slowing down their cars and gawking at the billboard. It was a simple form of expression that everyone made into a major issue. If everyone minded their own business, everything would have been fine.

Arzoo A., 13 Bloomingdale

We're not alone

I agree with Sophia M. (April 30 Backtalk). But I don't believe in ghosts. I call them spirits. Spirits are people who never found a religion, so they just stayed around on Earth. I don't believe in things like Casper, that you can see and stuff like that. Spirits are invisible, but are sometimes visible. Just like you, Sophia, I think a lot of people will shake their heads. But people should face the fact that we're not alone.

Susy A., 10 Chicago

I don't know if I believe in ghosts or not. In the Gallo house the blue fire from the electrical outlet was probably caused by faulty wiring, the white haze could have been steam from the heating system, and the smell of rotten eggs could have been left by the Easter Bunny last year.

Sam A., 10 Skokie

Cat deserves medal

I'm writing about the cat that saved her four kittens (April 9 Tough News). That's more than any human could have done. Was it just instinct or heroism? You judge for yourself. I think it's heroism. Ask yourself: Would I have done that for my kids? Would I be that good of a parent?

Mirza B., 13 Bensenville

Don't knock system

I'm responding to M.B. (April 23 Backtalk). Sorry to burst your bubble, but lots of illegal things happen during school hours. Drugs are sold, weapons are sold and used and kids get stolen and extorted from every day. If you wear wrong colors in a certain area, you could get beaten up, shot at or even killed. And brand-name clothing like Adidas shirts and jackets are being banned because some people would literally kill to have them.

The system is there to keep kids like you and me from getting hurt.

Michael S., 13 Evanston

Hard work pays off

In response to Gianna G. (April 16 Backtalk), I think you are very wrong in saying that "Babe" only deserved one star. Did you even see the movie? You should have realized how much effort goes into making a movie like that. It must have been very hard to make a movie with talking animals. And a lot of work must have gone into training those animals. All in all, I think it was a very good movie.

Tina G., 14 Chicago

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