

Will the Adult in the Room Please Stand Up?



By Eileen Spatz

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I am old. There, I have admitted it. Somehow or another I have become an oldster. Yes, I am a grandmother of two, so just by virtue of that title I guess it puts me right smack in the middle of the granny gang of graying boomers.

But can someone please tell me; when did Good Morning America morph into Romper Room? Seriously! Of course I realize that Good Morning America has never been a hard-hitting news outlet. But for many years, the producers at GMA would at least sprinkle in important news stories that weren't blatantly biased featuring hosts that at least acted like professionals.

Childishness Replaces Professionalism

Tuning in one recent morning, having not watched a GMA show for many years, I witnessed a bunch of forty-something hosts behaving like kindergartners. Everyone was giggling and cracking dumb jokes and acting like imbeciles at the same time the Middle East was aflame, ISIS was exploding, and the global economy once again on the brink. But these over-grown toddlers, their guffaws and chortles ricocheting off each other, were supposed to be the adults on the set of Get Goofy America. I just can't take it anymore. Forced revelry is simply not attractive.

Has anyone else noticed the proliferation of 'entertainment' shows that all seem to be in competition as the next TMZ? I know, such a lofty goal. Real news be damned! The great Pooh-Bah of television, whoever that is, seems to have decided that the American audience at large is so stupid and out of touch that only a constant diet of this pabulum can be digested long enough to sell all those drugs the pharmas push at every commercial break.

I admit, as a 50-something adult, I don't even know who half of today's 'stars' *are*. I feel a little sorry for these poor, young souls as the viewing public laughs at them and their homely mug shots from their latest DUI. They appear as intoxicated children, adorned with huge, oversized sunglasses, at the wheel of a grown-up car--Tesla or Lambo--plowing into yet another unsuspecting motorist. Hey, but this story trumps Putin's antics in the Ukraine, for sure.

Here Come the Candidates

And let's not forget about politics. What a disgrace that process has become in the past few election cycles. God forbid this country elects someone capable and mature enough to steer us through the real news events that the folks at Good Morning America wish to avoid mentioning at all costs. Unless, of course, it serves the leftist agenda, then you can't shut them up.

When I listen to Ronald Reagan's powerful speeches on the dangers of socialized medicine or communism I wonder why no one thought to clone him back then. Seriously, this country needs an adult in charge who has the chutzbah to tackle the big issues. The upcoming slog toward Election Day

will surely be laden with the usual hyperbolic campaign ads and yammering talking heads (on both sides) that ruthlessly smear the character and resumes of the brave souls who have thrown their hats into the presidential ring. Although the playground of politics has never been for the feint of heart, in recent cycles it seems that bullying prevails.

Could it be (gasp) the sad reality that baby boomers are, in actuality, immature babies themselves? Could it be that we are being fed this buffoonery because, due to the success of the dumbing down of America over the past 50 years, we are so uneducated and mind-numbed that any programming that's even slightly highbrow would sail right over our brows? Are we getting the only product that we can intellectually handle; dumbed down pseudo-news shows and a petulant child impersonating a president?

It doesn't really matter one's age; we as a people should not be content to accept this insult on our collective intelligence, and I do believe there is still plenty of innate, if not fully tapped, intellect among us. Shouldn't we be writing letters and emails (a tweet 's 140 character limit won't cut it) to the heads of programming and complaining about this unbearable tripe that they have been slinging? Isn't it time to cast a vote for the adult in the room?

To Our Peril

By our acquiescence and silence, I guess we will get what we deserve, both in our television personalities and our political leaders. If no one has the stomach to digest the real news, which can at times be mostly bad news, and prefers to sit stupefied through yet another idiotic reality show or entertainment update, then, yes, we will get what we deserve.

And while we sit in La-La Land munching on junk food and drooling in front of the idiot box, our country will be taken from us by sinister *adults* who will seize the moment when America's population is so distracted and brain dead we won't even see them coming.

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