

## Miscellaneous News and Arguments for the Wacky Warrant Workshop

**Note:** some of these stories are made up—make sure that you know which ones are!

### From *The Onion* (a parody news site)

#### How U.S. Schools Can Improve Math Education<sup>1</sup>

With U.S. students regularly placing behind 20 to 25 other nations in mathematics test scores, many education experts are wondering what the sources of the problem are and how we can take steps to fix them. Here's a look at how American schools can improve their math curricula and help struggling students:

- Gradually reduce the amount of numbers overcrowding the curriculum
- Design problems using relatable real-world scenarios, like subtracting specific amounts of funding from an education budget
- Plead with teacher's union to make exception in order to get rid of Mr. Donovan
- Fix smudge on projector transparency sheet on isosceles triangles
- Institute and fund a sweeping foreign exchange program that offers American children unique opportunity to visit high-achieving Singaporean schools and cheat off their students
- Decorate classrooms with photos of famous mathletes from throughout history
- Get students more engaged by having them act out a theorem or conjecture
- Buddy up Alabama with Massachusetts
- Allow students to take a few integers home with them after school

#### First-Grader Given Sticker For Behavior During Lockdown Drill<sup>2</sup>

ANAHEIM, CA—As a reward for following directions the best of all his classmates, local first-grader Daniel Reinhart received a sticker Friday recognizing his good behavior during a lockdown drill at Paul Revere Elementary School. “You did such a super job, Daniel,” said teacher Anna Jarvis, handing the beaming 6-year-old a sparkly gold star for making less noise than anyone when the lights were shut off, the door was locked, and the entire class was ushered into the closet. “He was the quietest little mouse, but most of you did a great job too!” At press time, Jarvis was telling another student that if he wanted a sticker next time, it was very, very, very important he not giggle.

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<sup>1</sup> *The Onion*, October 16, 2015; <http://www.theonion.com/graphic/how-us-schools-can-improve-math-education-51282>

<sup>2</sup> *The Onion*, October 16, 2015; <http://www.theonion.com/article/first-grader-given-sticker-behavior-during-lockdown-51598>

## **From *The Spoof* (a parody news site)**

### **Democrats finally have enough Senate votes to stifle Americans<sup>3</sup>**

User "Moose"; Tuesday, 8 September 2015

WASHINGTON, DC - Three Democrat senators announced today that they will vote in support of the nuclear deal with Iran. In a new CNN poll, released yesterday, 56% of Americans now say they think Congress should reject the deal with Iran -- up from 52% less than a month ago.

In a press release also issued today, President Barack Hussein Obama stated that he was "Relieved that the Democrat Congress finally has enough votes to stifle the American Public."

Statements from Senators Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.), Gary Peters (D-Mich.) and Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) mean 41 senators are now publicly backing the deal, enough to keep Americans where they belong - locked in the basement of their Democrat parents' home.

Leading Democrats went on to say that if Americans behave, they will let them drive their car and may give them a substantial increase in wages.

### **Obama Issues Executive Order, Renaming Political Parties<sup>4</sup>**

User "Moose": Thursday, 5 November 2015

WASHINGTON, DC - President Obama issued an executive order today, renaming the two major political parties in the United States of America.

The Democratic party shall be referred to as "The Supreme Democratic Party", while the Republican party shall be called "The Repuglican Order of Christian Taliban Douche-bags".

It was also announced that President Obama shall immediately be called "The Beloved Leader of the Supreme Democratic Party".

White House Press Secretary, Josh Earnest, made the announcement this morning at the daily press briefing. Republicans were informed of the meeting twelve minutes after it was adjourned.

The order goes into effect on January 21, 2017.

### **The Republican Party Rewrites the Constitution<sup>5</sup>**

User Matt Birkenhauer Wednesday, 26 August 2015

WASHINGTON, D.C.-The Republican Party, responding to the powerful Tea Party faction of its base (which assures the GOP establishment that it knows the original intent of the founding fathers even

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.thespoof.com/spoof-news/us/125183/democrats-finally-have-enough-senate-votes-to-stifle-americans>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.thespoof.com/spoof-news/us/125349/obama-issues-executive-order-renaming-political-parties>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.thespoof.com/spoof-news/us/125140/the-republican-party-rewrites-the-constitution>

more than the founders themselves could have known it at the time), has rewritten the U. S. Constitution, to reflect the reality of today's increasingly diverse, scary political and demographic landscape.

Here are some excerpts from the rough draft of the newly revised Constitution:

“Congress shall only make laws respecting the establishment of Christianity, and prohibiting the free exercise of Islam, Wiccan, Atheism, etc; and Congress shall make no laws abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, unless such speech represents the Left or any Progressive Cause; and it will allow mobs peaceably to assemble, fully armed, to petition the government for a redress of their specific grievances.

A self-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of states like Texas that are scared shitless by brown or black people in places of high station, shall bear as many guns as they shall deem necessary to arm themselves against their enemies, real and imagined...

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments--excepting lethal injection, asphyxiation, or electrocution--inflicted.

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people, unless “people” is construed to mean Hispanic, African-American, Asian, Native American, or a gay or transgender person of any ethnicity.

All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, excluding anchor babies of Hispanic origin, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States, again, excluding anchor babies of Hispanic origin; nor shall any State deprive any white person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any white, heterosexual person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex, on the condition that wives confer with their husbands, rabbis, pastors, or priests before entering the voting booth.”...

A Constitutional Convention, presided over by the eminent constitutional scholar Donald J. Trump, who will be aided by the Rev. Michael Huckabee, will be convened in Huston, Texas in 2016 to further revise a document which, by the lights of the current Republican Party, is sorely out of date.

## **Trump Confuses “Guantanamo” With “Guacamole” - Blames Mexicans for Torture<sup>6</sup>**

User “Catchthisdrift” Wednesday, 19 August 2015

Donald Trump this morning blamed Mexicans for any torture that occurred at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, saying that “since Mexicans brought that nasty green guantanamo dip with them when they illegally crossed the border into Cuba, they’ve been force-feeding it to the terrorist prisoners.”

Trump went on to say “That shit is gross. I mean, first of all it’s green and lumpy. Who eats green lumpy food except illegals?”

Trump then explained that when he’s President, and has built his wall along the border between the United States and Mexico, only good American condiments and dips will be allowed to cross legally into the U.S. Things like “ketchup”, and “mayo”.

Trump explained that he’d allow mayo to enter the country because it’s healed so many people.

Said Trump: “You hear all the time about how someone ate mayo and got healed. That’s American ingenuity at it’s best. Just like the slot machines in my casinos that have made me very very rich.”

Analysts believe Trump confused mayonnaise with The Mayo Clinic, a renowned medical center in Rochester, MN.

Trump concluded his remarks with “You can bank on the fact that when I’m President, I’m going to be extra healthy for both my terms, healthy like the profit margins at my luxury hotels. I eat mayo on my sandwiches, so you know I’m in excellent health. I may even change the stupid law and be President for as long as I want.”

## **From *San Antonio Express-News* (a serious newspaper)**

### **Time to Dump the Penny**

By Express-News Editorial Board; Sunday, July 26, 2015

Now that we are going to have a woman on the \$10 bill, bringing some welcome diversity to our cash, perhaps we can turn our attention to another pressing currency matter.

It’s time to dump the penny from circulation.

Before you send off that outraged letter to the editor defending the penny, ask yourself if it’s worth it.

Is it worth \$53 million a year to mint the penny just so you can dump it in a jar or a bowl when you get home? Because that’s how much we lose a year making pennies. It cost 1.7 cents to produce a penny in fiscal 2014.

Sure, \$53 million a year is a drop in the bucket for our federal budget, but every penny counts — no pun intended. And some coins, like the dime, turn a profit. It only costs 3.9 cents to make a dime.

It wasn’t always this way. There was a time when a penny cost a penny (or less) to make.

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<sup>6</sup> <http://www.thespoof.com/spoof-news/us/125121/trump-confuses-guantanamo-with-guacamole-blames-mexicans-for-torture>

Pennies (and nickels) didn't start costing taxpayers until 2006 when the price of metals — copper, zinc and nickel — rose.

But beyond the numbers, it is a well-established fact pennies are bothersome and irksome at checkout lines and in pockets.

When they scatter across the floor or, say, a parking lot, they are rarely worth the effort to bend over and pick up.

And when you have finally collected a serviceable amount of pennies, which might take years, more often than not you have to take them to a Coinstar kiosk, which charges an outrageous 10.9 cents to sort them.

It's only common sense. Dump the penny.<sup>7</sup>

### **Ditch dollar bill (a letter to the editor)**

Re: "It's common sense: Ditch the penny," editorial, July 27:

Ditch the penny? Not only that but also quit printing dollar bills. Dollar coins constitute a substantial savings to the Treasury. A dollar coin costs more to mint than a dollar bill costs to print, but it lasts 30 years or so while the bill must be replaced after about a year.

Hartmut Lau<sup>8</sup>

### **Hang onto George (another letter to the editor)**

Re: "Ditch dollar bill," Your Turn, Aug. 15:

Obviously, the letter writer has never spent a week in England, walking around with a pound of coins wearing a hole in his pocket due to the lack of paper money in small denominations. While you are searching through a handful of coins trying to reduce your amount, the merchants are impatiently trying to get you out of their pay line. Some merchants even have the audacity to reach over and pluck your hand and give you more coins as change.

Our government has tried before to ram dollar coins down our throats. It did not work then, and it will not work now, regardless of the savings. Neither customers nor merchants want a dollar coin and its inconvenience.

Keep George Washington on paper!

Robert D. Schafroth<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> <http://www.mysanantonio.com/opinion/editorials/article/Time-to-dump-the-penny-6404265.php>

<sup>8</sup> [http://www.mysanantonio.com/opinion/letters\\_to\\_the\\_editor/article/Your-Turn-August-15-6445110.php](http://www.mysanantonio.com/opinion/letters_to_the_editor/article/Your-Turn-August-15-6445110.php)

<sup>9</sup> [http://www.mysanantonio.com/opinion/letters\\_to\\_the\\_editor/article/Your-Turn-Oct-28-6594134.php](http://www.mysanantonio.com/opinion/letters_to_the_editor/article/Your-Turn-Oct-28-6594134.php)