

BANISHED

IN ACCORDANCE WITH AUTHORITY vested in the UNICORN HUNTERS of Lake Superior State College by its World-Wide Membership, its Influential Representatives in High Places, and the Wild Life Division of the Department of Natural Unicorns of the Great Sovereign State of Michigan, the following words and phrases are herewith BANISHED and are included in toto on the Annual New Year's Dishonour List of Words Banished from the Queen's English for Mis-, Mal-, or Over-Use, as Well as General Uselessness.



WHEREAS the Unicorn Hunters have examined 1,500 LETTERS OF NOMINATION from all parts, including Philadelphia and Ames (Iowa), be it RESOLVED that the following words are PROSCRIBED and BANISHED: * "CAMPAIGN RHETORIC," in that it is a misleading expression wherein politicians mute the idea that they were actually lying.¹ * "SERVES NO USEFUL PURPOSE," in that it has vague and covert meaning. The speaker actually means, "I don't know why I don't want to do it, but I'm not going to." * "MORAL MAJORITY," in that "I'm not sure how moral they are, but I'm convinced that they are not a majority."² REDUNDANCY RED ALERT: * "PAST HISTORY"³ though there was some thought that science-fiction writers might be allowed to use "Future History" in conjunction with "Past History." * "EXACT SAME."⁴



WORDS THAT CLOY THE EAR BANISHMENTS: * "FRUITWORTHY," there being some thought that in saying this one refers to poor entertainers worthy of being pelted with rotten fruit; but it comes about⁵ that the word was coined by Chicago's Mayor Jane Byrne who hoped on radio that "the investigation will prove fruitworthy."⁶ * A death notice from The Detroit Free Press indicating that the deceased was to be "FUNERALIZED."⁷ * "OUR CRAFT," "PAYING MY DUES" and "SURVIVING"⁸ as used endlessly by some entertainers in interviews.⁹

USELESS & BANISHED: * "FOR SURE" in place of "yes."¹⁰ * "DE-PLANE,"¹¹ one of many airport and airplane public address words with which passengers expressed discontent. Perhaps they are upset with repetition of the news that if the plane falls into the sea their seat cushions will continue to float even if they don't.

LIMITED BANISHMENTS, good words gone wrong and forbidden certain classes of speakers: * "SHARE" is forbidden to all "preachers, teachers and after dinner speakers"¹² who actually mean, "shut up and listen." * "ADULT" when it means "dirty."¹³

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1—e.g., Detroit's Mayor Coleman Young: "When I called him 'pruneface' that was campaign rhetoric. In the future I'll call him 'President Pruneface.'"

2—Michael R. Moloney in Lexington, Ky. radio interview. He is believed to be a Southern Democrat of the Anti-Happy Chandler scion.

3—Louise Knack, Sharon, Wisconsin, nominator

4—Chicago Tribune, December 1, 1980

5—Kathleen S. Painter, Fort Collins, Colorado, nominator

6—However, the Chicago Tribune (January 4, 1981 editorial: A fruitworthy discourse) maintains that this is a good word: "More generally, the quality of fruitworthiness is a mixture of accomplishment and rightness of purpose. And in this sense, Mayor Byrne's use of fruitworthy was fruitworthy indeed. . . In a city where the late Mayor Richard J. Daley praised the labyrinthine O'Hare Airport as the "crosswords" of the nation and said he resented the "insinuos" of his critics, she upholds a grand tradition as well."

7—James Sandry, Farmington Hills, Michigan, nominator

8—Pat Van Epps, North Muskegon, Michigan, nominator.

9—The latter phrase should be restricted to overcoming drowning, earthquakes, wars and such incidents as the French Revolution. ("J'ai survécu.")

10—Dick Longworthy, Chicago, nominator, who said, "Can one imagine Molly, in the final titanic lines of 'Ulysses,' crying, 'For sure! For sure!?'"

11—Charlotte Kratt, Birmingham, Alabama, nominator

12—Robert Sears, Roanoke, Virginia, nominator. May be used re. bread crusts; on Wall St.

13—Observed nominator Katharine E. Miller of Ventura, California: "We wait more than 20 years to become one only to find that it now means 'obscene.' An adult bookstore should sell Jane Austen, John Galsworthy and Sigrid Undset, not pornography." May be used to distinguish between teen agers and real people.



NOMINATIONS

FOR NEXT YEAR'S BANISHMENT LIST are accepted Nov. 15 through Dec. 20. Copies of this Banishment Poster and/or the Unicorn Questing License (approximately same size) are 50 cents each. Subscriptions to THE WOODS-RUNNER, College quarterly and Unicorn Hunters meeting place, are \$2 the year; \$5 for three. The Banishment Poster is published annually in the magazine. Back issues not available. NOMINATORS (above) are not necessarily the sole nominators of the words in question; but perhaps the most worthy of quotation. Lest we be accused of negativism, the Unicorn Hunters are considering the annual mid-summer NEW OK-WORDS ROSTER; your suggestions will be welcome.



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