

Kindness and empathy

Anna Moscardelli - July 2021

Do you ever ask yourself, “what the heck is wrong with people?” It was June 15 when I read the post on Facebook from a friend Kim Viggers-Hinchberger. With a heavy heart I am posting this.

As most of you know my sister Kelly’s son was killed in a car accident, and our amazing cousin Stephanie Tom started a fund raiser for a granite bench to be at the skateboard park that Zack and his buddies spent a lot of time at. It was a place for not only his family, but also his friends. It was something that would be there forever... until last weekend when some A*#Hole decided to destroy it. I am not sure what kind of person it takes to do something like that, but I am sure your parents are very proud... I hope your family never has to feel the pain that Zack’s family has gone through. Shame on you!

Edit: Mayor Napper and the town of Wyoming have been wonderful to Kelly and Kerry and have assured them it will be fixed. It has been confirmed to be vandalism. Thank you everyone for the support for Kelly, Kerry and the kids, it means everything to them.

It was heart wrenching to read the post, as I remember it like it was yesterday when I heard that Zach Bedard had succumbed to his injuries received in an automobile accident days before.

Many of us will never ever feel or understand what it is like to lose a child. For my friends Kelly and Kerry Bedard and family, their world had changed in an instant when Zack passed. Now someone has, for whatever reason, felt a need to destroy one of the dearest memories of Zack.

Many assumed it was kids, but we do not know if it was. Anyone could have done this. The sad part is trying to figure out why someone feels a need to do this. If it is a child, no doubt one day they will grow up. Some will turn their lives around while others will follow on a path that any parent would dread. If it were a young adult, one would think he or she would know better.

We like to believe that we have a great justice system however many times a slap on the wrist is given with excuses as to why the punishment does not fit the crime. Years ago, Barry Symington who recently passed, started Rebound. It was a great program for kids, and it helped so many. Over the years many individuals were involved with rebound. Now a days, not sure whether Rebound has the same affect as it did years ago. I always wonder if any of those representing the judicial system ask the perpetrator, “for what purpose and why would you have done this?”

Times have changed drastically. We see it every day. Many attempt to give reasons as to why people do what they do. It seems the biggest excuse we hear is “it’s motivated by drug addiction”. For a few years I have tried to make sense of some of this, but it continues to boggle my mind.

Folks, sometimes all an individual needs are kind words, and it does not matter whether it is a child or adult. We see so much cruelty in this world it is literally sickening. There are those who feel a need to criticize to make themselves feel better. For those who feel a need to shoot their mouth off unnecessarily, think before you speak. Your words can negatively impact someone in a huge way.

Let us all try to get along and parents or adults, please teach kids to be kind to one another. Help them to see kindness and teach them how to pass kindness and respect on.

Oh, and hopefully everyone has seen the new Huron Shores bus schedule where people can connect from Grand Bend to St. Joseph, to London to Sarnia and all those little towns in between. Awesome news for many.