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## LOVE

Years ago a John Hopkin's professor gave a group of graduate students this assignment: Go to the slums. Take 200 boys, between the ages of 12 and 16, and investigate their background and environment. Then predict their chances for the future. The students, after consulting social statistics, talking to the boys, and compiling much data, concluded that 90 percent of the boys would spend some time in jail. Twenty-five years later another group of graduate students was given the job of testing the prediction. They went back to the same area. Some of the boys - by then men - were still there, a few had died, some had moved away, but they got in touch with 180 of the original 200. They found that only four of the group had ever been sent to jail. Why was it that these men, who had lived in a breeding place of crime, had such a surprisingly good record? The researchers were continually told: "Well, there was a teacher..." They pressed further, and found that in 75 percent of the cases it was the same woman. The researchers went to this teacher, now living in a home for retired teachers. How had she exerted this remarkable influence over that group of children? Could she give them any reason why these boys should have remembered her? "No," she said, "no I really couldn't." And then, thinking back over the years, she said amusingly, more to herself than to her questioners: "I loved those boys...." Bits & Pieces - June 1995 Economics Press .

**Lesson: Love is an unseen guide that prepares people to commit their life for a cause. Love shared in a spirit of empathy can bring about tremendous change in peoples and situations.**

## **BUILDERS OF THE FUTURE**

Dear young people do you know that you are builders of the future?

So what do you need for that mission?

Just to be young men and women with fire in your heart Which kind of fire?

A fire for the society in which you live .

A fire for God who has called you into this mission

Do you know that you can make a difference wherever you are?

Just be men and women of prayer and faith.

Then you will know how you can be builders of the future.

**By Sr. Leonie r.a**

## A MODERN PARABLE

While walking down the street one day a Senator is tragically hit by a truck and dies. His soul arrives in heaven and is met by St. Peter at the entrance. "Welcome to heaven," says St. Peter. "Before you settle in, it seems there is a problem. We seldom see a high official around these parts, you see, so we're not sure what to do with you." "No problem, just let me in," says the senator. "Well, I'd like to, but I have orders from the higher ups. What we'll do is have you spend one day in hell and one day in heaven. Then you can choose where to spend your eternity." "Really, I've made up my mind. I want to be in heaven," says the senator. "I'm sorry, but we have our rules." And with that, St. Peter escorts him to the elevator and he goes down, down, down to hell. The doors open and he finds himself in the middle of a green golf course. In the distance is a clubhouse and standing in front of it are all his friends and other politicians who had worked with him. Everyone is very happy and in evening dress. They run to greet him, shake his hand, and reminisce about the good times they had while getting rich at the expense of the people. They play a friendly game of golf and then dine on lobster, caviar and champagne. Also present is the devil, who really is a very friendly guy who is having a good time dancing and telling jokes. They are all having such a good time that before the MP realizes it, it is time to go. Everyone gives him a hearty farewell and waves while the elevator rises... The elevator goes up, up, up and the door reopens in heaven where St. Peter is waiting for him, "Now it's time to visit heaven." So, 24 hours pass with the senator joining a group of contented souls moving from cloud to cloud, playing the harp and singing. They have a good time and, before he realizes it, the 24 hours have gone by and St. Peter returns. "Well, then, you've spent a day in hell and another in heaven. Now choose your eternity." The senator reflects for a minute, then he answers: "Well, I would never have said it before, I mean heaven has been delightful, but I think I would be better off in hell." So St. Peter escorts him to the elevator and he goes down, down, down to hell. Now the doors of the elevator open and he's in the middle of a barren land covered with waste and garbage. He sees all his friends, dressed in rags, picking up the trash and putting it in black bags as more trash falls from above. The devil comes over to him and puts his arm around his shoulders. "I don't understand," stammers the senator. "Yesterday I was here and there was a golf course and clubhouse, and we ate lobster and caviar, drank champagne, and danced and had a great time. Now there's just a wasteland full of garbage and my friends look miserable. What happened?" The devil smiles at him and says, "Yesterday we were campaigning... Today, you voted."

THINK Before you VOTE!!

Contributed by Dominic Savio Matheka

## **ANY WAY**

People are unreasonable, illogical and self-centered.  
Love them anyway.  
If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish ulterior motives.  
Do good anyway.  
If you are successful, you win false friends and true enemies.  
Succeed anyway.  
The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow.  
Do good anyway.  
Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable.  
Be honest and frank anyway.  
What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight.  
Build anyway.  
People really need help but may attack you if you help them.  
Help people anyway.  
Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth.  
Give the world the best you've got anyway.

**Mother Teresa**

## OCTOBER 24 ST. ANTHONY CLARET

He was a Catalan, i.e. a native of the region of Spain whose capital is Barcelona, and was born in 1807. He worked as a weaver until he was drawn to the religious life; he always wanted to be a foreign missionary but for many years his health prevented it. He was, however, responsible for the founding of an Order of missionary clergy which still exists today, and who are commonly known as the Claretian Fathers. He was then nominated as Archbishop of Santiago in Cuba, which was still a Spanish possession, and worked heroically for the interests of the most oppressed, especially workers in the sugar plantations who were to all intents and purposes slaves. He returned to Spain in 1857, and devoted himself to writing, but also to encouraging scientific, musical and linguistic studies. He was a Christian humanist in a country not always noted for its enlightenment. He also served as personal Chaplain to the Queen (Isabel II) and when she was driven out of the country in the Spanish revolution of 1868 he accompanied her into exile in France, dying just over the border at Narbonne, in 1870. He was canonised in 1950.

This is the beginning of a new day. You have been given this day to use as you will. You can waste it or use it for good. What you do today is important because you are exchanging a day of your life for it. When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever; in its place is something that you have left behind...let it be something good.

Intellectuals solve problems; geniuses prevent them. **A. Einstein**

Success is the ability to go from one failure to another with no loss of enthusiasm.