

Nov. 13 is World Kindness Day

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Shut up. Screw you. “Something profane.” Now, before you get offended know that on Monday Nov. 13 I can make up for it because it is World Kindness Day.

I know that this seems like one of those Hallmark-esque holidays where some happy-go-lucky person decided to designate a day to kindness, and who knows maybe it is, but I feel like it’s ridiculous to have a “day that encourages individuals to overlook boundaries, race and religion.” It’s like saying “ok take all of your jerk tendencies, racist opinions, and crude comments and put them in the closet for 24 hours.” If everyone can just come together, feel the love, and make peace for this one autumn day, then the world will see how important kindness is.

I understand that it is meant to raise awareness and to be a feel-good day. According to the World Kindness Movement, an organization that aims to inspire individuals towards greater kindness and to connect nations to create a kinder world, “the purpose of World Kindness Day is to look beyond ourselves, beyond the boundaries of our country, beyond our culture, our race, our religion; and realize we are citizens of the world.”

I agree with that. I agree that we need to look at our commonalities and appreciate each others differences but I don’t agree that it should be for one day.

I think its awesome that people are advocating for kindness, God knows we need more of it in this world, but I feel like people need to wake

up and realize that the fact that we NEED a world kindness day is sad. The fact that we NEED a day to put away our differences is ridiculous. And then what happens on Tuesday? We go back to how it normally is.

Originally this was not going to be an opinion piece. I was just going to write an article about what world kindness day was all about. . . but after thinking about it more I realized that I wanted to write something that people might actually read. Or at least something more substantial than 200 words on what kindness is.

So that brings me to this seemingly simplistic question- What is kindness? Yeah, we all have our own interpretations and opinions. Yeah- most of these views probably overlap in some way or another. But my question is more along the philosophical side of the meaning as opposed to the literal. Is kindness a way of being? A phase? A face? A destination? An action?

World Kindness Day is all about being kind to the world right? Duh. Well for this to happen, people, human beings as a whole, have to start thinking about others before themselves. We have to wake up and see that we are one. No matter wealth, race, religion, job, car, all that we differentiate between one another, we are united. Well, we should be.

Honestly, I could be that happy-go-lucky person that may have come up with the idea of World Kindness Day. I’m all for what the World Kindness Movement has done and is doing. But, I just wanted to point out that honestly, how many of you have heard of World Kindness Day? How many of you are going to do something extra kind on Monday just for the sake of the day, something that

you wouldn’t normally do? If you don’t, does that mean kindness isn’t important to you? If you do is it only because you are celebrating the day?

Yes, I feel like we do need to take a step back and look at ourselves and appreciate each other more. I’m not saying that I’m against World Kindness Day. . . who would be? But I just want to take this time and think about what it means to need a day to put away our differences. If we would put them away all the time and just accept diversity instead if fighting it then we would be better off-- right?

Maybe this sounds like a bunch of hippie hullabaloo and maybe, seeing as I’m sitting at a computer writing about what needs to be done as opposed to doing something about it. I think that might be the problem though. We have enough motivated people in this world to change something but a lot of them are doing the same thing I am.

I think the World Kindness Movement is a start. I think World Kindness Day is a stepping stone. However, I think that we, as a people and as a society, should take a look at what all of this means and what more we can do then just be kind for one day.

Independently we can fuel the fire but united we can light it.



Post Neo Neo Dada 2

Post Neo Neo Dada 2 opened and closed on Monday, November 7, in Sims Art building, to great acclaim.

“This was the most thought provoking show I’ve ever witnessed,” said Jacob Nachman. “The most beautiful artworks ever produced were here,” he explained, “and they didn’t limn absence until they were gone.”

The pieces in the show were produced by AH 350 Modern Art Survey, and the consensus was that it was money well spent. Chair 2 was the guest of honor – a collaborative piece by Kyle Jackola, Adrian Wagner, and a guy named Joe.

The Artist Formerly Known as Goat produced abundant, moving conceptual pieces that challenged Dada. Hugo Ball got stuck under a table, and stumbled out after a few cups of Kool Aid. Cameron Kahill even sold a piece, “Meaning of Life,” for an undisclosed price to an anonymous dealer.

The favorite art work was Mouse Trap, which gathered a crowd of attendees solemnly watching ice melt as a little foot and a tail emerged.

Questions were abundant, but answers were in short supply. Mostly because all questions were deferred to Chris Lockhart,

who said repeatedly, “I’m just looking for a ride.” Morgan Sykes however was not in attendance.

Rumor has it that her bicycle wheel got stuck in a stool. Anti-food was served at the reception, and brave attendees sampled the green and brown Jello and drank the Kool Aid oh yeah.

Music was provided by Kyle Jackola. All who weren’t there can explain it to those who were. Except for Cameron Kahill, who stated (with conviction), “I hate Dada. It should all be burned.”