

LAURA ON LIFE

# What Is Not Earned, Is Not Valued

In America, every person is entitled to a public education. Whether they decide to learn anything or not is totally up to the individual. It's a free country.

There are times when a 4th grader would trade it all for a chocolate chip cookie.

In my home, my children are guaranteed three square meals a day. Whether they eat it or not is up to them.

My ten-year old would willingly trade his dinner, especially the vegetables, for almost anything else.

Yet there are people in this world who would trade everything they own for a chance at even a basic education or the guarantee of even one meal every day.

Why is it that our children are so unappreciative of the things they are given? Because these things are given to them without any requirements or caveats. Nothing is asked of them in return for these rights. They are not required to make a minimum grade in order to retain their right of free education. They are not even required to behave themselves in school to retain that right.

In the same way, children are not required to do anything to "earn" their meals. Yes, my kids have chores, but I do not withhold food if their chores did not get done.

In fact, if either of these rights are impinged upon, no matter the child's performance in either regard, the parent is seen as a criminal, in America.

I am in no way suggesting that these rights should be taken away, but there is compelling evidence that it could turn our educational system around if education had to be earned. Something should be asked of kids who want an education. Not money. Not favors. Something that a child can contribute: a good attitude, a willingness to work hard, good behavior. They should be concerned that this amazing right could be taken away if they don't follow the rules. Some say a child can be suspended if they do not follow the rules. But suspension, by its definition, is only temporary. For those children who practice "regular suspension," it's merely a vacation in which no other student can indulge. A bonus for being disobedient.

In countries where education is a privilege rather than a right, there are no disruptions in the classrooms. The kids know why they are there and that it may be their only ticket out of poverty. They are happy to be there. They want to learn. Distractions are frowned upon, not revealed in. Intelligence is revered, not reviled.

The same can be

said for those poor children who only get one meal a day, if that. Many times, they have to earn it with some small service. Then, they eat every scrap on their plate whether it is their favorite or not.

Spinach, broccoli and beets go down as fast as Chicken McNuggets and French Fries would.

No, I am not a proponent of starving my children or depriving them of an education. What I'm saying is that, ironically, if these things were not guaranteed, our society would try harder to achieve them. They would be valued.

In America, a college education is not guaranteed. It is not a right, it is an option; an option that should be coveted by anyone who wants to make a good living as an adult.

Unfortunately, many American parents have not only insisted on their children going to college, but they have also guaranteed it by funding it for their children.

Again, it is something that is being given to young adults with no expectations; only the hope that they will see the importance and perform accordingly. Unfortunately, it is not enough that a



Laura Snyder

parent desperately wants a decent life for their child. The child has to want it as well. If they want it, they will invest their own time and money as well as their blood, sweat and even some tears.

The myth that one set of parents should fund multiple children's college educations is perpetuated by colleges and university. If there is a balance on the account, the administration immediately turns to the parent, not the student. But if a parent asks for a list of the student's grades, they are told it's none of their business because the child is over 18. Apparently, this means that college students are old enough to do without their parent's guidance, but not old enough to do without their money.

Colleges are facilities dedicated to the pur-

suit of making money, as any business is. They have no stake in your child's education. If a child decides to party through all four years, riding on the very edge of a passing grade, the colleges couldn't care less. What's worse, the student's parents would never even know. Your tuition money buys only your child's right to be there.

If a student has not had to pay his own way through college by way of part-time jobs and loans, it is difficult for

that student to place the proper value on it. Even after a diploma has been issued, what incentive does he have to go to work if Mom and Pop are still paying for everything?

It is inherent in humans. They do not value what they have not had to earn. I'm simply saying: Don't make it so easy.

*Laura Snyder is a nationally syndicated columnist, author & speaker. You can reach Laura at [lsnyder@lauraonlife.com](mailto:lsnyder@lauraonlife.com) Or visit her website [www.lauraonlife.com](http://www.lauraonlife.com) for more info.*

**sudoku Solution**  
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5	6	1	9	3	4	7	2	8
9	7	3	2	1	8	4	6	5
8	2	4	7	6	5	9	3	1
3	5	7	1	8	9	2	4	6
2	9	8	6	4	3	5	1	7
1	4	6	5	2	7	3	8	9
7	1	2	4	5	6	8	9	3
4	3	5	8	9	1	6	7	2
6	8	9	3	7	2	1	5	4

**THREE BEDROOM RANCH STYLE HOME IN VIBORG, SD**

## AT AUCTION

As I have moved to the Good Samaritan Home in Centerville I will offer the following real property at public auction at 203 W Blaine Avenue, Viborg, SD on

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 — 10:00 A.M.**



The main floor includes 2 large bedrooms with closets, one small bedroom, large living room, bathroom, kitchen with wooden cabinets, a 3 season room and a single attached garage. There is a full finished basement with water softener and an electric furnace and heat pump installed in the fall of 2010. This home is ideally located on a corner lot one block north of the school and only 2 blocks from downtown. OPEN HOUSE: Sunday, September 18 from 2:00 to 3:00 pm. Call: 605-530-3661 to view the property.

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** N 36' OF THE W 1/2 of Lot 6 and the W 1/2 of Lot 7, Block 2, Larsen's 2nd Addition to Viborg, Turner County, SD.

**TERMS:** Cash sale. \$5,000 non-refundable down payment day of sale with balance on or before October 30. Possession at closing. Title insurance shared 50-50. Real Estate taxes of \$1,623.24 pro-rated to date of closing. Auctioneers are agents for seller. Selling subject to owner confirmation.

**DOROTHY LARSON, OWNER**  
**ELAINE ISAACSON, POA**  
**GARY WARD, ATTORNEY**

**KNUTSON AUCTION SERVICE**

**Harlan Knutson** RE Auctioneer 605-563-2590  
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**RETIREMENT AUCTION**  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2011**  
Sale Starts 10:00 AM - Lunch  
Located from Newcastle, NE: 2 Miles West on Hwy 12 and 1 Mile South

FARM IMPLEMENTS	MISC.
IHC 1456, 9 Bolt Axle Mount Duals, 2 hyd., Serial No. 015202	JD Lawn Mower Z425, 0 turn, good
IHC 806 WF 3 pt., Serial No. 27501	Snow Blower, 5 hp, 24", like new
AC-WD Tractor for salvage	Sears Chain Saw
Roorda Manure Spreader, 300-bu., good	Air Compressor
Owatona Windrower 260, 14-ft. canvas head	Power Washer
Owatona Skid Loader, No. 310	2 Tillers
JD 7000 4-row Corn Planter	2 Older Lawn Mowers
JD Stack Mover	Electric Welder
Gyro Mower, 7-ft., 3 pt.	Cutting Torch
Mist Blower	5 Fuel Tanks, 300 gal. - 500 gal.
Lily Roter Tiller, 12-ft., 3 pt.	110 Pickup Portable Tank
IHC Grinder Mixer with scale	Plastic 300 Pickup Tank
2 Silage Wagons, 7x14, with heavy Westendorf gears, shedded, good	13 30-ft. Rafters
2 Gravity Flow Wagons, 250 bu. and 150 bu. Owatona Round Baler, No. 595	2 Steel Feed Bunks
Weed Sprayer, 500-gal., 8-row	2 Bale Feeders
Elston Gopher Getter, 3 pt.	Dehorning Shoot
Flat Bed, 8'x14'	Pride of the Farm Cattle and Hog Waterers
JD Elevator, 42'x18"	Moisture Tester
Marath Auger, 8x50	Lots & Lots of Steel & Wood Posts
3 Section Packer	Lots of Cattle Panels
3 Pt. Cement Mixer, 1-1/2 Bag	Wire Winder
JD Disc, BWA, 18 ft.	Grain Cleaner
IHC 78 Cultivator	500 Bales of Straw
Case 5x16 Plow, steerable	
2 Six Wheel Rakes	
Dump Rake	
JD Mower, No. 8	
Buzz Saw & Blade	
5 Section Wheel Drag	
Lots of old Iron	

**Lots More Items - Too Numerous to List!**

**2000 GMC Sierra Pickup** 1/2 Ton, 4x4, loaded, near new tires, 107,000 miles

**James & Barbara Hoelsing 402.355.2581**  
**Auctioneers & Clerks:**  
**Kenny Burcham 402.638.2561**  
**Larry Lowe 402.755.2393**

Not Responsible for Accidents Terms Cash

**Real Estate and Personal Property AUCTION**  
**Thursday Sept. 29, 2011**  
Real Estate 6 PM • Personal Property 5 PM  
**1100 East 16<sup>th</sup> St. Yankton, SD**  
Open House Wednesday, Sept. 21 5-6 PM

**Antiques:** Grandfather clock build by John Nelsen, secretary desk, curio cabinet, various conditions violins, old books and magazines, cook books, blue glass ware, stereo, transit survey with tripod and old clarinet.  
**Miscellaneous:** Storage shed, couch, end tables, lamps, 2 bedroom sets, book shelves, large assortment of glassware, filing cabinet with safe keys, kitchen table & chairs, kitchen utensils, pots & pans, 2 singer sewing machines, violin strings, steel cabinets, milk stool, ice cream parlor chairs, desk, salt & pepper shakers, knic-knacks, records, bedding, new towels and sheets, hand tools, extension ladder, step stool, push lawn mower, garbage cans, drills and rugs.  
**Guns:** 1943 Russian Tokarev 7.62 cal pistol with holster.

**Description:** Single family home on corner lot (153x70), 3 bedrooms, 2 bath with attached double car garage (24x24) built in 1973. Main floor sq. ft. 1288.  
**Taxes:** 827.08 (tax freeze base year 1985)  
**Legal:** Lt 1 Blk 3 Matuska's addition Yankton SD  
**Terms:** 10% nonrefundable down payment due the day of Auction with balance due at closing. Title insurance and closing costs are split 50/50 between the buyer and seller. Seller will pay 2010 taxes and prorate. Auctioneers are working for the seller.  
**Owner:** Gladys Nelson

**To View or Questions call**  
**Dakota Realty and Property Management**  
Hazen Bye, Auctioneer #11665 Cell: 605-624-4474  
Guest Auctioneers: Gary Madsen 605-638-0643  
& Jim Brady 605-670-9638