

BANISHED

1988



THE FOLLOWING WORDS and phrases are herewith **BANISHED** and are included in toto and en masse on the Annual New Year's Dishonour List of Words Banished from the Queen's English for Mis- or Over-Use, as Well as General Uselessness.

NUMBER 1 BANISHMENT

RECEIVED THE MOST NOMINATIONS

HE GOES/SHE GOES . . . instead of "he said" or "she said." As in:

"So then he goes: 'I saw her yesterday.'"

"And she goes: 'Yeah, me, too.'"

"Then I goes: 'What's going on here?'"

We agree with Marilyn P. Sell of Forest Lake, Minn., and the C-FAX Radio audience, Joe Easingwood's Victoria, B.C. "City Desk Show," that "This misused phrase must go!"

ON A ROLL, as in "That's his third touchdown tonight. He's on a roll." Being on a roll is fine for hamburgers, hot dogs, sesame seeds or pecans . . . but not people.

Alton Gilday
Monroe, Mich.

REFUSENIK. A contrived word which has something to do with dissidents and the Soviet Union. The meaning is nebulous at best. Nyet to refusenik.

Sandra M. Louden
Pittsburgh, Penn.

ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLE. Every way of life is an alternative. This phrase is just a safe description of something we'd rather ignore.

John C. Sherwood
Marshall, Mich.

TO GROW CUT FLOWERS . . . clipped from an article in the Boston Globe. If this is a scientific breakthrough, banishment revoked.

Janice Murphy
Brighton, Mass.

LIVING IN POVERTY. Linda Slusher of Ohio says, "I am NOT living in poverty — I am poor and living in Columbus."

ADULTS OVER 21. The group to which the sale of some books is limited. Adults under 21, or children over 21, need not apply.

Robert C. Cumbow
Bellevue, Wash.

GENTLEMEN, when used to mean thug, criminal or suspect. "Two gentlemen beat up an old lady and another gentleman went through her purse."

Mary Mehr
Detroit, Mich.

CONFERENCED, as in "I conferenced with ten students. Have you done any conferencing?" The verb is "confer."

Michael Brown
Winthrop, Maine

MICRO-WAVEABLE. Are we describing the preparation of food or a minuscule hand gesture of greeting or farewell?

Charles H. Witherow III
Miami, Florida

CUTTING EDGE. A non-surgical term generally meaning "advanced," as in the cutting edge of fashion or research. Excessive use suggests banishment before someone is slashed to ribbons.

Jack M. Dietrich
Albuquerque, New Mexico

A Tribute

W. T. RABE retired from Lake Superior State University in 1987. He continues in his profession as a free lance publicist and photojournalist, and resides in Sault Ste. Marie.

LSSU SALUTES Bill for his heroic Word Banishment efforts of more than a decade. Although the Archivist of the Unicorn Hunters is now questing on his own, his dynamic endeavors on behalf of Lake State are continued by other staffers.

ALTHOUGH THERE IS only one W. T. Rabe, we hope, in this instance, our readers will accept substitutes for W.T.

Dr. Terrence Sweeney

LONE GUNMAN . . . to mean "gunman." Unless he has a companion named Tonto.

John C. Sherwood

SAFE SEX, as in: "Do you practice safe sex?" May this term be sentenced to life in prison with Dr. Ruth.

Peter Skinner and Trudie Mason
Montreal, Quebec

ONE FULL QUART . . . as opposed to an empty quart?

Douglas A. Stuber
Columbus, Ohio

HOME FOR SALE. It's the house that's for sale!

Marian Crandall
Heath, Ohio

FOR ALL YOUR . . . NEEDS. A now standard advertising phrase. "For all your dog food needs. For all your hair care needs. For all your insurance needs. For all your banishment needs."

Mike Daniels
Marquette, Mich.

YOUR, as in "Here you got your green; you got your blue, your red, your yellow, your etc."

Chris Lenhardt
Plain City, Ohio

Non-Word Awards

ORIENTATE. "To orient" is to point someone in the right direction. "Orientation" is the process of performing the above. "Orientate" is another example of the trend toward polysyllabification.

James Jackson
Corvallis, Oregon

IRREGARDLESS, for regardless or irrespectful. An irritating irregularity.

Lorie Houser
Newberg, Oregon
and
Jeff Coster
Trumbull, Conn.

Vehicular Violations

ROAD CAR. What other kind of car is there? A lawn car? A parking lot car?

Bruce Gemmel
Georgetown, Ontario

GARAGEABLE, as in "The new Chevy Astro is roomy inside, yet fully garageable."

George Granlund
Saginaw, Mich.

Preventive Ban Measure for General Uselessness

VANNATIZED, a new concept undoubtedly coined with our nation's latest silent heroine, Vanna White, in mind.

Pat Vacca
Carning, New York

HE SHOOK HIS HEAD 'YES.' The correct phrase is, "He nods his head 'yes'."

Jerry Battner
Lima, Ohio

Redundancy Alert

GARY HART, in particular.

Marjorie Sweeney
Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

SECLUDED PRIVACY, a favorite of real estate advertisers.

W.E. Smith
Chagrin Falls, Ohio

FREE GIFT. Do people usually pay for gifts?

Rita Green
Trumbull, Conn.

MORE

BAN:

Bicentennial for Bicentenary

Your for You're

Ekspecially for Especially

Sem-Eye for Semi

Nu-cu-lar for Nuclear

Reaffirm for Affirm

Crik for Creek

Incidences for Incidents

Atchure for At Your

Axed for Asked

Ekcetera for Etcetera

Ect. for Etc.

Febuary for February

Relaty for Reality

Acrost for Across

Height for Height

Okay after every sentence

1988 DISHONOURABLE MENTION

WOMANIZER. Is there such a word as "manizer"? We suggest philanderer as the unisex term.

Douglas Haymen
Lawrence, Mass.

HARVESTING, when referring to killing animals. Did anyone in the past ever say, "Well, I'm going out to harvest some buffalo?" or "Reckon there's any mere Carrier Pigeons to harvest, Mort?" **Lou Vodopya** of Nashville, Tenn. says, "The Tennessee Fur Harvesters Association has softened their name. Do you suppose they simply go out, catch the animals, relieve them of their fur, and turn them loose? I haven't seen any bald bucks running around loose."

PERSONAL SHOPPER, when used to mean an impersonal department store employee who is paid to choose gifts for your family and friends.

Marjorie Sweeney

USE ONLY AS DIRECTED, don't drink shampoo or wart remover. **VOID WHERE PROHIBITED**. How did that prohibited stuff get in here? Void it!

IVAN AVASIVITCH
(his spelling, not ours)
Chicago, Ill.

NETWORKING. Banished to those who are really only brown-nosing.

Joseph Shields
Maplewood, Minn.

Political Analysis:

TASK, used as a verb. First heard in Washington, D.C., and quickly transmitted in grant applications and legislative directives to the rest of the country. As in: "The local department of health is tasked with the preparation of a plan for the management of hazardous waste."

George Story
Management Assistant
Office of the City Manager
San Diego, Calif.

OXYMRON FOR THE CAMPAIGN YEAR 1988: POLITICAL SCIENCE

David Howard
Virginia Beach, Vir.

TRICKLE-DOWN EFFECT. Used by the President and government officials when speaking of economics. Use now limited to toddlers in loose diapers.

Ron Jeffels
Richmond, B. C.

SO-CALLED STAR WARS. We adults all know what Strategic Defense Initiative and SDI mean. News announcers are no longer required to say, "so-called star wars" afterwards.

Michele Schaad
Granville, Ohio

Lake Superior State University

NOMINATIONS FOR NEXT YEAR'S BANISHMENT LIST will be accepted Nov. 5 through Dec. 5, 1988. Nominations named above are not necessarily the sole nominators of the banished words, but their nominations seemed most worthy of quotation. This poster available at \$2. A SUMMARY POSTER (22 x 17 inches, printed both sides) of banishments from 1976 to date is available at \$5.



© 1988 LAKE SUPERIOR STATE UNIVERSITY

Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan 49783