

20 WAYS TO ASK THE BIG QUESTION... “PROM!?”

By: Justin Smith

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| <p>1) Special Delivery
Bring flowers to her classroom.</p> <p>2) Put it on her car
Make sure that it doesn't mess up the car or she most likely won't want to be your date.</p> <p>3) The Special Announcement
Ask her on morning announcements.</p> <p>4) Put it on the board in her next class
Make sure it takes up most of the board so he/she sees it.</p> <p>5) Fruity Question
Send “Edible Arrangements.”</p> <p>6) Cardboard Character
Instead of it being a birthday, write “prom” and don't forget the person's name!</p> <p>7) A Sweet Surprise
Make a dessert with the question displayed.</p> <p>8) Put it Down</p> | <p>Put in on concrete where he/she will drive by.</p> <p>9) The Ring Box
Get a ring box and put the question in it.</p> <p>10) Joyful Song
Have the Madrigals sing a song to ask.</p> <p>11) Black Knight Nation
Ask Black Knight Nation to make a cheer asking.</p> <p>12) Will You Be My Prom Date?
Ask on a note with the flowers given out on Valentine's Day.</p> <p>13) Have an Appetite?
Buy their favorite food and ask them.</p> <p>14) Morning Surprise
Sit on top of the car where he/she goes to school and hold the question up on a poster.</p> <p>15) The Round Table
Put an ad in The Round Table.</p> <p>16) Inked
Write it on his/her hand.</p> | <p>17) Twitter
Tweet it!</p> <p>18) Facebook
Make him or her a video on Facebook</p> <p>19) Sporting Event
Put it on the big screen at a sporting event.</p> <p>20) The Cop Question
Have one of the cops from the parking lot after school pull them over and ask them.</p> |
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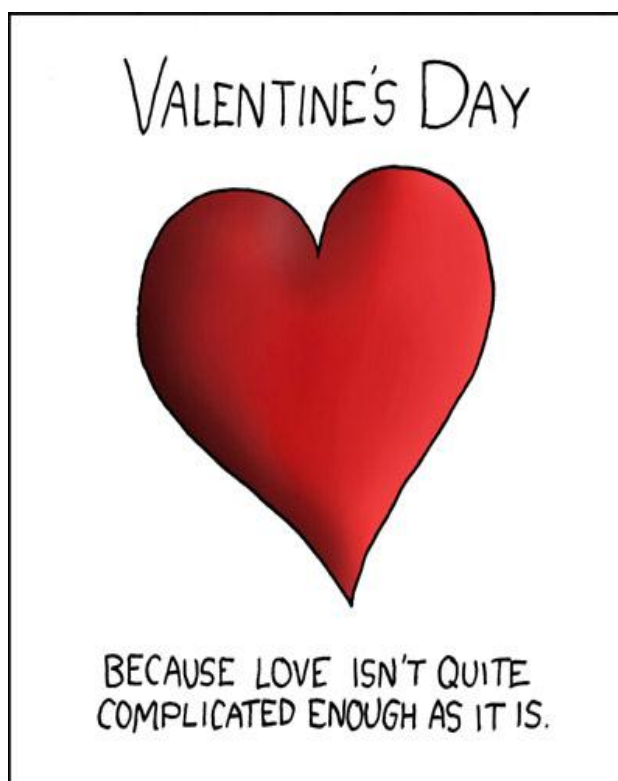


Being Available on Valentine's Day

By: Aset Fortune

Most people look at being alone on Valentine's Day as a bad thing, and so did I until recently. Now I realize that being alone on Valentine's Day can be a good thing, because instead of blowing all of your money on flowers and chocolate you can save it or spend it on yourself. Just because you are alone doesn't mean you can't give gifts to *yourself*!

Like most of you single people out there, I once believed that Valentine's Day was a time to watch all of the couples around you having a good time. But writing this article

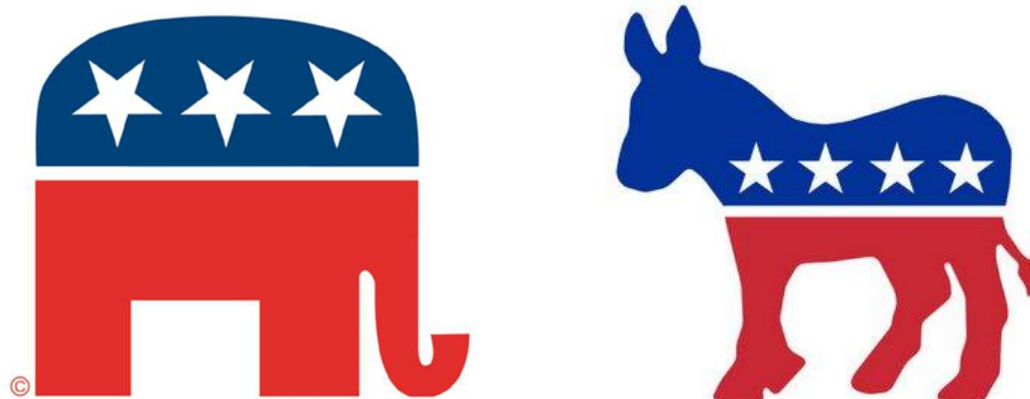


showed me that you don't necessarily have to be alone. For those who are single, Valentine's Day is an opportunity to gather all of your other single friends and hang out. This Valentine's Day, my other single friends and I are going to get together and enjoy being single.

Don't get me wrong, though; being in a relationship has its perks too. Spending time with the one you care about the most on a day filled with love (and chocolate) is great. However, some other perks to being single on Valentine's Day include not having to remember the day at all and not stressing over what to buy for your special person! So this Valentine's Day single people can relax, because to us, it's a day to love the person in the mirror.

Fun Fact of the month:

Did you know that the Republican Elephant and the Democratic Donkey were originally used as insults?



Doors Closed on an Open Campus

By: Zhenya Nalywako

Photos by Tsering Yangzom



Having an open campus means giving students the freedom to more or less come and go from their school as they please. At some schools, it necessitates students having a certain GPA to be eligible to partake in such a policy. At others, it requires students to have their parents sign a waiver permitting their children to leave school while it is still in session.

There are many different degrees of open campus schools. There are those that allow students to leave early and come in late if they have a job, like Greenwich High School, and those that allow students to leave only if they have a free period, like Ridgefield High School. These systems work well for their schools, which begs the question: why does Stamford High not have such an agreement?

Stamford High is situated close to Stamford's vibrant downtown, and is less than a five minute walk from both Dunkin Donuts and John's Pizza. Stamford High also has many different courtyards and other outdoor areas that could be used to eat lunch or do homework. It certainly appears that Stamford High is an optimal school for an open campus policy. And, as Abbas Ayoub, a senior at Stamford High put it, "the school's closed campus policy makes some students want to leave even more, as an act of rebellion." There are some possible issues with implementing an open campus policy at Stamford High, though.

Tariq Bruce, also a senior at Stamford High, believes that "if Stamford High were to have an open campus, there would be a lot of kids who would just go home after lunch and not come back." Besides that, there is the issue of liability if a kid gets hurt off of school property while school is still in session. Diane Burns, a math teacher at Stamford High, is in favor of an open campus policy, but only if students had their parent's sign a waiver. "Financial and legal liability is the reason we don't have an open campus at Stamford High," said Burns. "If a student were to get hurt off campus during school hours, the school would be responsible, unless a waiver was signed."

Some students of Stamford High might be surprised to find out, though, that Donna Valentine, their principal, is in favor of an open campus policy. "This is the first school I have ever worked at that does not have an open campus," Valentine said. "I am personally in favor of an open campus; I think it would be good for the school." Valentine continued, though, that any attempt to make Stamford High an open campus school would have to be student-led, organized, and run. "Stamford High's closed campus is not mandated by the state," said Valentine, "but to push an open campus policy through here a student committee would need to come up with a safety plan in conjunction with their parents."

Valentine believes in a system that would not require students to have a

certain GPA to take advantage of the open campus, but rather one that would require them to simply be passing all of their classes. Other restrictions on an open campus system at Stamford High would be parental consent, and ensuring that the student is free of behavioral issues.

But one thing that is very important to Dr. Valentine in all this is that an open campus at Stamford high would have to be student run. "Making Stamford High an open campus would have to be presented before the school board by a student committee," said Valentine, "and they would need to establish some ground rules." Ground rules such as where the students would and would not be allowed to go, who would be in charge of making sure kids don't abuse the system, and who would and would not be allowed to participate. These would all be responsibilities placed on the students, but Valentine is all for helping them reach that goal.

The school's proximity to Stamford's downtown and many great local restaurants would make having an open campus policy at Stamford High a serious plus. Students could also take advantage of Stamford High's own outdoor courtyards and recreational areas under such a system. Combine this with a principal who is fully behind helping a student committee push an open campus policy through and you are left wondering, "Why am I still locked behind closed do

Meet the Editors!

By: Rachel Arlin

Part One: Production Managers Joey Mayglothing and Vanessa Salman

Photo by Liz Etienne

Writing articles for the Round Table is one thing, but setting up the newspaper is more difficult. It's time consuming and involves a lot of concentration. Our newspaper couldn't be made without our editorial staff. I interviewed the Round Table's production managers Vanessa Salman and Joey Mayglothing to find out more about the making of Stamford High's newspaper.

Why did you take the [Communications] class?

Vanessa Salman: I'm definitely gonna major in Communications and I wanted to take this class to further my knowledge.

Joey Mayglothing: It seemed like it'd be fun.

Do you plan to further your writing education?

VS: I haven't started looking at many colleges but Syracuse and University of Southern California are up there. I want to be an entertainment/online journalist.

JM: I may join the Radio Station in college but nothing in newspaper.

What kind of writing do you like?

VS: Fiction. Though, I take a real life situation and exaggerate it.

JM: I write pretty much anything Ringel assigns us.

What inspired you to become a production manager?

VS: It was unexpected. I showed Ringel how to do things on Photoshop and knew it better than anyone else so I wanted an editor position.

JM: I took graphic design last year so I was pretty familiar with laying out documents. I felt this made me qualified for the job.

How have you contributed to the Round Table?

VS: I've written two front page stories previously, and there are two more in this issue. Also, I fit the stories together to make it perfect.

JM: I pretty much figure out how designing works on the computer and make our layout.

What do you think of the writers this year?

VS: We have pretty good writers. We have writers who want to report the news and others who hold opinions. They are all dedicated to their work.



JM: Some of them are pretty good. Brian is such an extraordinary reporter.

What's the biggest challenge of working on the Round Table staff?

VS: Learning the software and making sure everything's on time. We don't want to wait until 8 pm to get everything ready. At the same time, it's Ringel's first time and the editors are new at it. We're adjusting with the process and it's getting easier.

JM: Getting everyone organized was the biggest challenge. Mr. Ringel has to organize everything but some people take this class "just because," so hopefully it'll be better next year. Some people, though, are eager to make this work.

Popularity in the newspaper has increased a lot from last year, how do you feel about this up-and-coming reputation?

VS: It's cool a lot of people are getting into it. Actual news and journalism will never die, even if physical newspapers do.

JM: We have a lot of fresh new talent this year, which helped; however, we have to make it more entertaining for people who read it. We should have a bigger game section, because who doesn't like comics?

That's what goes on behind-the-scenes of the Round Table. Meeting deadlines, getting reporters organized, and designing newspaper layouts involves a lot of concentration and commitment. Our writers and editors work very hard to make this newspaper for Stamford High, and we will profile more of them in future issues.

