
Subject: Eureka!

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Sun, 04 Dec 2005 16:17:19 GMT

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I'm driving my son and some of his friends home from a party Friday night. They have lately been listening to a radio station that plays all rock from the 60's and 70's; very good playlist. They now know lots of the old tunes from Zep and Stones and Beatles..CCR CSNY etc. And it's fun to ride in the car with them because now they ask questions about the music and those times.Well; the CSNY song OHIO came on. They asked me about it.Now I don't ever preach and I don't believe in indoctrinating children; that includes politically/religiously/morally or anyother Y. I find that if you shut up and let them speak they will make very good arguments and choices. As soon as you preach their ears close.So they asked and I said well; it's a song about a protest march held in Kent State where the Governor ordered the National Guard out to disperse the marchers and while doing that the Guard fired on the protesters and some were killed.Dead silence. Then the questions came. Were they really killed? Were the protestors fighting with the soldiers? Why did they fire real bullets? I was surprised at the level of attention that song recieved.I tried to be impartial but that was hard. Why are the kids shielded from these truths? They were genuinely shocked and their interest showed. Sad that they have no background in the civil rights and peace movements in this country. All they hear is war and how important that is.

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Bill Martinelli](#) on Sun, 04 Dec 2005 18:04:04 GMT

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Are they sheilded or are they just getting to an age where they find some of the things that happened in the past interesting? My kids are pretty focussed on alternative string tunin or what notes make up a diminished scale! a few years ago there was a big focus on pokymon cards and skate boards. I dont think you have to try and explain things unbiased though. I tell them how I feel and what I think happened but also offer up other opinions of what other people think about the same situation. They make up their own minds and will change their opinion a few times too

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Sun, 04 Dec 2005 19:05:26 GMT

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Yeah; thats a good way to approach it. I just have a concern that he would adopt my opinion just because it's mine and it's the one he hears most often. While I will say how I feel I try to encourage him to search for other points of view. I see a lot of his friends don't like Bush but you can tell it's mom and dad talking. I want him to decide for himself based on the man's behaviour; so when they start with the anti-Bush rhetoric I ask them why they feel that way and they get

stumped. Now they think I support Bush. If they only knew. So; the boys have inherited some of their old mans musical affinity. Nice. by strings do you mean guitar? My boy plays sax and clarinet but the band director has been after him to try the Bassoon. Last Tuesday he comes in the door with this case in hand. I ask him what gives and lo and behold; it's a bassoon. The friggin' thing is over 6 feet tall. And it sounds like a 200 lb duck.

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Bill Martinelli](#) on Mon, 05 Dec 2005 19:04:49 GMT

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Roger that on the 200 lb duck. I've been graced with the instrument in our house from time to time. The daughter plays piano and then obo for concert band and switches between other instruments too. The older boy plays Guitar and for school a sax. The younger boy play bass and for school a trombone. On any given weekend there could be 4-6 kids jamming and recording something or another. Usually some freakishly old song that we listened too at their age! same as your kids, I dont get it. They all get top grades in school so I give them lots of latitude and support with the music end.

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Tue, 06 Dec 2005 01:04:36 GMT

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Yep; thats the deal. He gets all the latittude he wants as long as he performs up to snuff. Actually; and don't tell him this, but I always had a problem with authority; yep, thats right. I definately had a problem. So truth be told; I would make a lousy disciplinarian since I never could accept any myself. On my report card it said; John Who? That oboe; thats a ticket to the ivy league; no?

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Bill Martinelli](#) on Tue, 06 Dec 2005 03:09:59 GMT

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I think the oboe is the 50 lb duck! I liked the baboon better. little pet names we have here. If it wins ivy league popularity than cout me in. All 3 are talking music schools right now. lots of change to come in a few short years, so one never knows.

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Leland Crooks](#) on Tue, 06 Dec 2005 11:13:04 GMT

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I lurk here a lot, usually post on BFM and PI. Got to chime in here. Make sure they apply to private schools. My daughter is a music/history dual major at Loyola Marymount in LA. She's a singer. They gave her a pile of money to come there. Quite a change for a KS girl. She's going there for less than or equal to what I would have paid for in state tuition at KU. Better warn them, music majors work their butts off. Far harder than the business degree I've got.

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Damir](#) on Tue, 06 Dec 2005 12:02:30 GMT

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Playing the oboe = way to being popular?! Wow - last time I checked, popular were some piercing-tattoo stoned-looking bisexual guitarists/singers/dancers/posers who worked hard to acting in 70s-80s rock-stars manner...

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Tue, 06 Dec 2005 12:59:37 GMT

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Yep; no such thing as a free ride. They pay but the kids earn it..every penny. Two a day practices; working all summer and holidays and all this while attending classes. That's why I love those who droll at the scholarship meetings; they don't realise what they are getting their kids into sometimes. I am told Bassoon and Oboes are the ticket for scholarship money. The easiest scholarship is academic then use your talents for some cash. The admissions directors love that because the Music or Sports guys don't have to take the money out of their budget. Is that correct the way you see it? I got a business degree; I slept through four years.

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Tue, 06 Dec 2005 13:00:52 GMT

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You are close to Crain Music School; no? Up in Plattsburgh. That's a good school.

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Leland Crooks](#) on Tue, 06 Dec 2005 13:14:53 GMT

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Exactly. My daughter was a national caliber debater in HS. She just walked on the LMU team and got another 6k for her sophomore year and also gets work study for research. My son is also a national debater, and KU is probably going to do the same for him. He's got a band, and they're staying in the midwest to pursue the band. Easier to get noticed here than on the coast. As long as the grades stay up, Dad's all for it. Watch that damn ffsa form. Make a mistake and they will make your life hell. Blonde haired, blue eyed country girl from KS had to have a citizenship check courtesy of Homeland Security. Cost us most of the non scholarship financial aid for the sophomore year, due to the delay.

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Tue, 06 Dec 2005 16:42:29 GMT

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Excellent warning. Thanks; I have another year to go but am studying the process already. Congradgulations on the success of your kids. Nice to see hard work rewarded.

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Tue, 06 Dec 2005 16:44:41 GMT

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Popularity doesn't enter the picture here; it's the 120k\$ price tag of a good education that motivates us now. I pray everyday my son doesn't do the kinds of things I did when I was his age.(Although it sure was fun to do them!)

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Bill Martinelli](#) on Wed, 07 Dec 2005 00:44:46 GMT

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Yeah, Crain is only 5 hours away and Eastam school of music is here in town.

Subject: Re: Eureka!
Posted by [Bill Martinelli](#) on Wed, 07 Dec 2005 02:06:15 GMT
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Same here, thanks for the info. I'll be starting the paper trail in a few years. You must be very happy to see your kids do great things.

Subject: Re: Eureka!
Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Wed, 07 Dec 2005 12:15:58 GMT
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My nephew graduated Crane and got a teaching job in Sag Harbor right out of school.

Subject: Re: Eureka!
Posted by [akhilesh](#) on Wed, 07 Dec 2005 21:13:17 GMT
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Are you sure they all paid attention in class?-akhilesh

Subject: Re: Eureka!
Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Thu, 08 Dec 2005 13:13:30 GMT
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Good Catch AK. His little group are all Honors students; he is listed Summa Cum Laude in his school. So it would appear he does pay some attention. Actually I personally am amazed at the dedication of all of his social circle. All we wanted to do in High School was party. You could not get me to even attend HS; I was out 72 days in my last year. They got tired of suspending me so they told me I could just take the tests and if I passed they would give me a diploma. Can't imagine that happening now and of course I have never told him this little information.

Subject: Re: Eureka!
Posted by [Damir](#) on Thu, 08 Dec 2005 14:45:54 GMT
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Hehe, "good old days" high school stories...strange days, lot of r`n`r (and other things I don't want to talk about:-))...

http://www.metrolyrics.com/lyrics/126790/Chuck_Berry/School_Days

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Thu, 08 Dec 2005 15:06:19 GMT

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Say; Damir, who did that song..Rock and Roll High School?You know..Rock Rock, rock and roll high school.Lots and Lots of stories on that subject.When I was a kid they used to let us do arc-welding in shop. The safety rule was if anyone was welding in the booth no one could open the curtain until the red-light went out. Of course that meant total privacy which of course meant the perfect place to indulge in improper activities. And the fumes from the welder masked any other smells. Took some guys an hour to draw a single bead.

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Damir](#) on Thu, 08 Dec 2005 16:43:21 GMT

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Ramones, of course! I had welding practice in my college days during the `80s in a big factory (~17000 workers!), which manufactured atomic reactors, among other things. During the `90s, only a fraction of people work on the military program, and today only a few hundred are workers doing something/anything :-(.I don't know, maybe most of the people have similar experiences, like "normal" part of growing-up and life? But, a few days ago I talked with an old friend of mine about music and high-school "company", and almost everyone whom we remembered is dead, crazy, sick, or at least in some other town if not in Netherlands or somewhere...

<http://www.plyrics.com/lyrics/ramones/rocknrollhighschool.html>

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Thu, 08 Dec 2005 17:34:44 GMT

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Thats right; they used to play at a place called Speaks out here in Island Park every Saturday before they became real popular.We had a little different experience here; lots of guys fought in Vietnam and either never came back or came back all screwed up.Say; the Netherlands doesn't sound too bad. Do they really have Hash Bars there like they say?

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Damir](#) on Thu, 08 Dec 2005 19:41:57 GMT

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Of course, every junkie`s paradise-dream...:-) But, the reality of everyday life is something else, acc. to the (ex-guitarist) friend of mine who lives there. I`ve never been there - not too hot to travel, and not curious...Much more interesting are a few good trafo-companies from NL...

<http://www.plyrics.com/lyrics/ramones/idontwanttogrowup.html>

Subject: Re: Eureka!

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Thu, 08 Dec 2005 20:19:51 GMT

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I don't know; everyday life is probably pretty much the same everywhere there is a reasonable community. Maybe not so fine over in Iran or North Korea; but in the majority of Western Nations and I include places like Brazil and Australia/ New Zealand etc. it's probably business as usual.Look at you; you sound pretty much like us. Hell they even looked pretty content over in China during this last Presidential trip.I mean maybe they don't have the discretionary spending and availability of toys and luxuries but in the end it really is more about friends and family than material things anyway.The only reservation I might have is availability of good health care; and that is disappearing over here anyway.Anyone part of an HMO??

Subject: Don't get me started

Posted by [Leland Crooks](#) on Thu, 08 Dec 2005 21:56:51 GMT

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As an employer with 7 employees getting affordable health insurance is a nightmare we fight with about every year. Increasing rates, or dropping us due to small numbers, or just about any excuse you can name to make it hard. We currently have basically catastrophic policies which we help out on the deductibles if they need it. All we can afford.

Subject: Re: Don't get me started

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Fri, 09 Dec 2005 00:31:42 GMT

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That being a direct result of the power of the insurance lobby and their ability to skew the debate towards the straw-man of frivolous lawsuits.By taking the spot-light off of what amounts to criminal

profits and mis-use of funds the insurance pirates have managed to reduce the debate to a sham and a mockery of civilised discourse. And our current administration supports their every whim. That's why you will never get decent health care. It is in the process of becoming a welfare system where the rich get excellent care for fee for service and the rest of us get marginal or worse care from the insurance pirate run health care system. I sympathise with you and all of the people I know who are victimised by this mafia style enterprise. And what do our elected representatives do? They make it impossible for those with crushing medical debt's incurred through illness to ever dig their way out of trouble by creating impossibly strict medical bankruptcy rules. Here in New York the better physicians are all going fee for service so they can escape the piratical attacks from the insurance companies. The rest are seeing offices full of people who have no money and the worst diagnoses. Or the very elderly with no resources. But hey; we're building hospitals in Iraq; nice new medical facilities for all those people. No money for the folks in New Orleans though.

Subject: heh-heh-heh!!!

Posted by [PakProtector](#) on Tue, 20 Dec 2005 00:56:39 GMT

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at least you didn't forget to wrap a towel round yourself before running out of the bath!!! Just remember the students were doing their level best to provoke the NG into some sort of outburst. Remember Ghandi and the march to the salt processing center? they marched up to the gate until the guards were too tired to beat them. There were a lot of guards too. Good protest always winds up with a little bit of spilled blood. Usually hurts the folks who spilled it more than those who offered it for the Cause. cheers, Douglas
