The Press & Dakotan

Obesity Police In The Schools

BY MELISSA MALKIN

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If you thought “Obesity Police” was a misnomer, think again. It’s the most appropriate title for those who forced a 10-year-old South Dakota girl to submit to body measurements on the first day of school and then took to social media to label her “overweight.”

Ellie MacFarlane wrote on Facebook: “Boy, oh boy! Look what happened. Our tiny little 10yr old daughter just got her first history and health assessment. Just the thought of someone weighing you makes me sick.”

Ellie’s daughter Gwendolyn is a fifth-grader in Sioux Falls. Last week, when Ellie posted about Gwendolyn’s assignment, Gwendolyn blew the whistle on how her perfectly healthy daughter was branded “overweight.”

Ellie’s daughter and most other South Dakota school students were measured for height and weight — and then weighed on the scale — by her Fitnessgram. City schools sent the results to Gwendolyn’s doctor, and he reported her BMI (Body Mass Index) to his office. Ellie, in which he commented, “Vox populi is always kind to the poor person.”

Gwendolyn’s BMI was 22, and she’s 4’10” and 85 pounds. Her mother and I received a warning letter from our local health department and a phone call from their executive director. We were advised to lose more than 20 pounds for my daughter to be considered normal. The letter said: “Obese” is defined as having a BMI greater than 25.

Today’s Highlight in History: On May 21, 1966, the U.S. space probe In 1966, the U.S. space probe that landed on the moon during the Apollo 11 mission sent pictures of the lunar surface.

In 1953, the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II as monarch of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth took place.

In 1924, Congress passed a law that reduced the work week from 60 to 40 hours.

In 1995, after a bomb destroyed a federal building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, killing 168 people, President Bill Clinton announced a new anti-terrorism policy.

BY MICHELLE MALKIN

In the sense of fairness and professionalism, the press and the public all need to demand that the political parties and the candidates they support take responsibility for the behavior and actions of their peripheral actors, from lobbyists to party attorneys to political consultants to paid polling experts. It’s time for political parties to be held accountable for their actions.

So what do we do? We demand accountability. We tell the press and the public that we are sick and tired of seeing politicians and their circle of enablers terrorizing innocent people. We demand that the political parties and their candidates get their act together, stop hiring the racists and those who engage in the use of government power for personal gain.

Whoever sent “Happy Memorial Day” to my email inbox didn’t do it out of malicious intent. They probably meant well, even if their words were unkind.

As conservative as I am, I don’t think it’s the duty of every liberal, or every conservative, to make sure that their political opponents all have perfectly correct views and don’t say anything hard to listen to.

The real problem here is that the media have enabled, even encouraged, this type of behavior. They have neglected to hold people accountable for their actions, and they have refused to call out outliers when they cross a line.

We need a press corps that is willing to engage in real journalism — journalism that holds people accountable and demands that they act in a manner befitting their positions.

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Delegates matter. They were decisive at least in denouncing the governor’s nomination last week. Governor's Party is still strong.

The group contracts with New York, Texas, California and other states to provide training, administrative staff and even staff attorneys across the country to provide training, administrative staff and even staff attorneys.

The process that is used for the six other statewide offices relies on delegates to the conventions. Democrats select their delegates locally by popular vote. Republicans choose their delegates by putting them on the primary ballot and letting Republicans vote directly.

Delegates to the top finishers in Republican primary elections for governor, and there are two Republican candidates for the nomination for governor. There are two Republican candidates for the nomination for governor.

There are single candidates for the Democratic nominations for U.S. House and U.S. Senate and one candidate for the Republican nomination for governor.

Atkinson's Liberation Trilogy. It is sad and deplorable that some liberals and political activists say that the press and the public all need to demand that the political parties and the candidates they support take responsibility for the behavior and actions of their peripheral actors, from lobbyists to party attorneys to political consultants to paid polling experts. It's time for political parties to be held accountable for their actions.

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