



Lincolnshire Echo
Comment

SO, finally, we have proof that absolutely nothing is sacred any more.

After a campaign lasting for years which has centered on phone boxes, buildings and public toilets, the city's minority of yobs and vandals have now turned their attention to the jewel in Lincoln's crown, our beautiful, historic cathedral. Their stupid actions have meant that instead of being able to proudly show off this wonderful building to visitors, those who wish to go there either as tourists or to worship must now run a gauntlet of destruction and intimidation which includes broken windows and excrement on the steps.

These mindless young people are selfish beyond belief, putting their own need for a quick thrill above those of everyone else.

Cathedral staff are left feeling helpless, unable to move the vandals on and getting precious little support from Lincolnshire Police in dealing with them.

Was there ever a better opportunity for the force to put a zero tolerance policy into action immediately?

Worth a thought?

All women are mothers of great men – it isn't their fault if life disappoints them later.



Boris Pasternak, author

Don't quote me but...

Personally I know nothing about sex because I've always been married.



Zsa Zsa Gabor, actress

ABOUT YOUR LETTERS

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your view

HAVE YOUR SAY

WRITE TO: Your View, Lincolnshire Echo, Brayford Wharf East, Lincoln LN5 7AT
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Protecting our children or just plain ridiculous?

I THINK it is ridiculous that parents cannot take photographs of their children in an event such as the Nettleham Gang Show (March 13).

Given that this production is organised by the Guides and Scouts, it is highly unlikely that the show will feature, for example, inappropriately dressed children. If it did, then the fears of the organisers could be understood. In reality, what will be filmed is likely to be no more inappropriate than what can be seen in town on a weekend. Our country is in danger of becoming one big politically correct sham, if lunacy such as this continues.

TONY FREITAS
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■ Why can't we just get the powers that be to make the children wear paper bags on their heads to hide their identity? It is no less absurd.

Pictures and videos of children should be allowed, a paedophile or anyone else wanting to do harm is hardly likely to get any gratification from watching a group of Scouts parade and play music.

If that was the case they would get more kicks from tuning into Cbeebies than they would at a Scouting event.

What needs to be stopped is for example parents (I have seen them) trying to take pictures at swimming pools when other people's kids are in swimsuits.

These are the forms of pictures that should be banned from being taken, which a lot of parents "see no harm in" but can be abused ... not Scout parades.

I say take the pictures, let them try to stop you, and if they do then take the council to court for allowing CCTV pictures to be taken of 13-year-olds strolling around town on a summer's afternoon in August – they wear far more revealing outfits than than a Scout uniform!

CAMERON LOVE
Lincoln.

■ It all seems rather futile stopping



CAMERA GENERATION: Flashback to a campaign by pupils in Gainsborough that collected 10,000 vouchers to buy digital cameras.

happy children from having their pictures taken while this Government is demanding that not only are the same children to have their pictures put on record but also their blood groups, retina scans and other particulars. All of this to be stored by the Government to put on passports and ID cards – and sold on to interested companies.

JAMES KEAY
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■ Anyone would think there are half a dozen paedophiles lurking around each corner.

There are not, so for heaven's sake let's keep things in perspective.

Why should children miss out on the pleasure of being filmed and photographed? They love it.

It is the perverts who should be removed from our lives.

I do not see why we should have to stop doing the things we have always done just to accommodate them.

And now someone is trying to stop us from taking photos in public places.

Well they (whoever 'they' are) won't stop me. In fact whatever 'they' say I must not do, I will damn well do it.

I will not be dictated to by idiots who are short on common sense.

I hope everyone else does the same.

We must not let them win and they will if we let them.

MYRA CANT
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■ I have previously been involved in organising events for children and I do

understand completely that parents want to treasure pictures of their children. However I cannot help but notice how badly this would have come back on the event organisers if this film had made it on to the Internet or into the wrong hands.

I do believe that the event organisers did do the right thing for the children and their well-being, and it is important for everyone to remember that it is these kinds of events which do attract paedophiles.

I think everyone needs to step back and think about the safety and well-being of the children in this case and praise the organisers for taking a brave step in protecting their children.

A. THOMPSON
Lincoln.

POINTS FROM THE POST

POOR FOOD: Last year, the Echo printed a letter about coffee culture under the heading We're So Not There, Yet. This is also so, so true about our eateries. After having lived in many big cities, both abroad and in this country, I have been spoilt by a bevy of interesting (and decently priced) eateries and cafes. I am struggling to deal with the provincialism of Lincoln but am trying (honest).

As casual eating in Lincoln is such a hit and miss, and not necessarily cheap, I don't eat out very often, but occasionally the urge hits me to treat myself.

Today I popped into a pub. I was very hungry and still had a 30-minute walk ahead of me. I wasn't very adventurous and stuck to that British lunchtime staple of baked potato and beans.

You wouldn't think in the UK it would be possible to go wrong with this, would you? Well, after 20 minutes the smallest baked potato I've seen in a long time arrived, with a smattering of beans so minuscule you could practically count the beans.

I complained to the waitress and got more beans. The manager explained that head office controlled the portion sizes and there was



CULTURE CONCERN: Pick up on international trends, a reader says.

nothing they could do about it. Considering this, I was fortunate to get more beans, which even so amounted to far less than I am used to getting at other eateries around the city, but paid twice the price.

What I don't understand is why people put up with it. The place was packed and people didn't seem bothered by the poor quality food, small portions and high prices, so this chain pub is in no danger of not making a

good profit. I have adjusted to having to do most of my shopping at a supermarket, but am finding this adjustment to eating out difficult.

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WASTEFUL: People are dying in the world, wars go on, pollution is rife and we are paying for people to discuss, make and process decisions such as replacing the crown symbol with an EU symbol on beer glasses (March 13). What a waste of money!

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