

Public Trust

...a forgotten concept...

by Kat Rowoldt



I remember having dinner several years ago with a gentleman after a lengthy City Council meeting. He had brought before the Council a concept for the benefit of the City, but it had fallen on deaf ears. I was interested in his idea and wanted to learn more, hence the dinner meeting. It was during our discussion that evening that I began to understand the meaning of Public Trust, as he spent several minutes defining it to me in a way I had never taken the time to consider. It became one of those moments I'll never forget. I greatly appreciated his effort to take the time to put that term into a tangible concept for me.

I don't often think back to that dinner discussion, but it was quickly brought back to mind last week when I was reading a rant on Facebook by one of the School Board members. She was blasting those who are "suddenly" in opposition to this bond. She was guilting the public for not having been at the various board meetings when this was being discussed and expressing our opposition at that time. Hmmm.... Public Trust!

Virtually no one attends the school board meetings, county meetings, or city council meeting unless they have something on the agenda. Only a small percent of people will bother to vote in elections that are not for President. Yet local elections affect us most. Sad to say, often it's only 10%, or less, of the registered voters who actually take the time to do "their civic duty." 90% of voters abandon their voice and their ability to establish Public Trust.

Public Trust occurs when you have fully vetted the potential candidates, made your selection, voted them into office, and give them your TRUST that they will make decisions and take actions as you would like or do yourself. You are empowering them to represent you.

Our society has forgotten the part we play in that sequence. Instead, we blindly trust anyone in office to work on our behalf. It's total foolishness. Today we see that poor judgment being played out in many of the horrendous decisions coming out of our legislatures, school boards, county and city governing bodies. Yet, then again, many people are oblivious to what is happening at all.

They either don't take the time, don't want to know, or don't want the truth to burst their happy bubble. They don't realize their rights, their money, their lifestyle they love and cherish are being taken away from them, one vote at a time.

Our news media is totally worthless today. They are ambulance chasers, courtroom sensationalists, or 8 second sound bites of various events. We no longer have investigative reporters who work to bring us facts in order to make decisions. That isn't by accident. The media has been bought and paid-for for a very long time.

In today's society there are a handful of people, labeled as activists, who are doing the research, attending the meetings, talking to people, learning what is really going on, and trying their darndest to inform the public of what is really happening. They are a limited number of people. They can't be all places at once. They can't research everything. They also aren't funded by any entity to cover their time or out-of-pocket expenses. They are an amazing group of people. What they do accomplish is outstanding.

Government at all levels has become a runaway train headed full-steam downhill, blowing away our Constitutional rights, destroying our hard-earned money, and forcing unwanted change upon us because it's "politically correct." We need more people who are willing to step up and help us expose what is really happening on so many different fronts, activists who will educate the public, recruit the right people to run for office, candidates who will represent our viewpoints, and work to bring stability and balance back into our lives.

Nope, I don't want Progressivism or their idea of social justice. It's destroying our country, our families, and our lives. We need to work to return our country to the morally sound, Judeo-Christian-based, God-fearing, Constitutional foundation once again. Those moral values are what caused our country to thrive, to be sought-out by immigrants from all over the world, and to be that beacon of hope for mankind.

Public Trust. We need that restored. The school district collects the largest share of our property tax dollars. When our school board members are more focused on athletic tracks and gymnasiums than the educational results of our children, it's time to replace them. As I reported a few weeks ago [[click here for that article](#)], the San Angelo school district ranks very low in our state. That just shouldn't be. We put our public trust in the school board members to manage our school system for us. They have let us down.

You want proof? SAISD has been writing their own curriculum for several years now. Parents have ZERO ACCESS to what their children are being taught. Why? What are they hiding? Something, because the end result has been tests scores

dropping like a rock. This is in spite of the fact that when the statewide test results are in, TEA moves the acceptable grade marker down to where 51% of the children passed. That's dumbing down our society instead of challenging them to push harder. It is reported that the marker has been adjusted as low as 40% as acceptable.

We've read and heard about what is being taught in other school systems across the country. Misinformation. Disinformation. Conduct that violates West Texas and Christian values. Is that going on here? The idea terrifies me! Every parent should be alarmed.

Most of the administration receives salaries beyond our dreams, way beyond our children's capacity to ever earn based on the educational quality they are currently receiving. We need people who will change that culture, readjust priorities, and focus once again on quality education.

There is a lot of work to do. The first step is to vote down this school bond. It's an omnibus bill at the local level. There are many things our school system needs, but they are not answered or presented to us in a doable fashion with this bond. I'm not sure another bond is what we require at all. We first need someone who will get into where they are spending the money, who can work through the shell game that's being played, and figure out a way to trim the fat, pull what is currently "fat dollars" and use them to recruit outstanding teachers to lead the way and set a better standard for our students.

If by chance this article has inspired you to get involved, please let me know. We need more good people to help with this work. There is so much more that could be said, but that's enough for today.

Until next time...

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