

OBSERVATIONS OF A CURMUDGEON OR MENCKEN'S PERCEPTIONS OF THE SOCIALLY INADEQUATE

1. Students whose gum chewing rivals the cows do not become public relations experts.
2. Students who physically resemble Moby Dick should never wear lycra pants to an interview.
3. Students who continually whine about how unfair life is should not request character references.
4. Students who continually excuse their mediocre academic performance are, at best, mediocre.
5. Students who use expressed low self-esteem as a form of "modesty" are neither modest nor in possession of low self-esteem.
6. Students who continually vocalize their alleged expert opinions are usually the most inept.
7. Students whose sole concerns are just how they look or just who is looking at them are bores.
8. Students who constantly look for approval on everything they do or say seldom accomplish anything.
9. Students who "never quite understand" have no business in college.
10. Students who think a degree will excuse their social inadequacies cannot be educated.
11. Students who demand sensitivity from others are the most insensitive towards others.
12. Students who blame others for all their problems only expose their own deficiencies.
13. Students who plan their future and ignore the present screw up both.
14. Students who equate rudeness with assertiveness find themselves unwanted and unemployable.
15. Students who avoid making decisions are already failures (or will never experience success).

16. Students who hide from their problems by enrolling in the university find neither solutions nor get an education.
 17. Students who have a constant "mad-on" are mental midgets.
 18. Students who see collegiate studies as a hurdle to be overcome are their own obstacle.
 19. Students with serious "personal problems" have no business majoring in psychology or seeking to become counselors.
 20. Students who carry a chip on their shoulder have sawdust for brains.
 21. Students who try to make everything into a joke are the victims of their own attitudes.
 22. Students who were not particularly popular in high school or junior high should not seek a second chance by becoming teachers.
 23. Students who know everything that is wrong with the university should tend to their own problems.
 24. Students who claim to have "partial disabilities" have only partial thoughts.
 25. Student who never find anything interesting are _____
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I am totally responsible for these statements. Some may find them unsettling but they are a result of my "venting" after having some tough sessions with students who seem to want everything but an education. I do not claim to be all things to all students and I am of the opinion that students should understand that advisers also have feelings and opinions, both positive and negative. Perhaps these are not the most erudite of statements, but the therapeutic feeling resulting from the "judicious loss of temper" does calm me down. Rather than "blow up" at a student, I just write my reactive attitudes down. I thought I would share them with the wonderment of, "Do any of you ever feel this way?" Cheers.