

Discussion of Article: "Caricatures to the Left of Them, Caricatures to the Right of Them, Caricatures In Front of Them, Volleyed and Thundered"

Post by "Cassius" of May 4, 2020 at 3:36 PM

More:

I agree that it is "small subset of people" that understand or are capable of understanding it.

As to the spectator comment, this might be coming from a person that wants to have an Epicurean involved in w/e their belief, stance, or calling is.

I can see their side, it is often where I tell friends not to get overwhelmed or too involved in others actions or motives, as the outcome you seek through a 2nd or 3rd party, will likely not be what prevails. Thus as someone who follows our philosophy, I do put my own pleasures first, so perhaps I am a spectator, paying attention to how I make my next move as is what's best for me and my cares.

Elayne:

M. by spectator, Kimball means passive-- not making moves for yourself. If you are making moves, you are not a spectator! ☐☐ And that's a good thing-- making active choices gives you a better chance of having a pleasurable life!

M.:

Like just watching life go by? I guess I read it differently. For example, speaking politically, people can almost get offended if one chooses not to vote. It's as if they can't fathom someone not participating in a process they are deeply instilled in, calling that "being a spectator" but ignorant that a person is active in their own manners.

Granted, if you say, "fine I'll vote, but I'll vote for the other person!" Then they might get upset too lol.

Elayne:

I think the overall tone is to imply that we are passive, just watching life go by as if we were at a ballgame but not playing ourselves.

But you are right-- people who want to criticize us for not participating in whatever their preferred activity is tend to accuse us of some kind of failure to participate-- because it is their priority and not ours. That's not true, if we are participating in something else instead-- but that

doesn't register with them.

They fail to realize people have different preferences. Which is part of what Cassius is talking about. We won't have all the same preferences, the same pleasures-- and really, how could we, considering we have biological differences? We are one species, so there will often be overlap in broad areas-- but we are not clones.

To imagine we would all have the same pleasures is like thinking all liquids should boil at the same temperature. It's not even c/w physics, lol.

It makes people mad when we don't agree, so then they pull out nonsense like in that quote. ☐