



A Boy State Citizens Questions of other Citizens....

The American Legion, The Georgia American Legion and Georgia American Legion Posts were told to choose the best, brightest, and most outstanding young men to grant the privilege of attending Georgia Boys State.

I am going to ask a few rhetorical questions that I don't want answered, so bear with me.

Do you think we're living up to the high status granted us? We've had many great men and women take time out of their hectic schedules to visit us, here at Boys State. I don't know if we were all even paying attention, but I noticed that most if not all of these guest speakers said they felt privileged to speak to us here at Boys State. **Do you think they should feel privileged with the way we've been acting?** I feel we need to realize we represent our post. For some of us still blessed enough to have both parents, we represent them as well. We represent our school's and the United States of America.

With that said, I believe actions speak louder than words. For the rest of our stay, we need to seize this opportunity to make this our camp and program from reveille to retreat.

Ajay Ganapathy writing:

It's Friday, and tomorrow, I'm going to return to the real world. It's a world in which I am usually silent, soft, and philosophical. It's a world without fame and limelights – thank God for that. I mean, I'm well-known among my friends at school, but I'm no staple name. And I don't want to be.

I read an article in NPR – “the true nature of fame”, it came out about ten days ago. Koppel was talking about his moments upon the world's stage. The highs, the lows, and how ultimately he didn't like it that much. I think that I can be the same way.

This week was really fun, but I am desperate to leave for a quieter home, because 15 minutes of fame is just a few seconds too much. When God expedites me out of here tomorrow morning, I will do so with a gratitude for what I've learned at this place through thrill and hardship;

Stuff I learned:

1. Girls, can't live without them.
2. Girls, can't live with them.
3. The above two represent the petulance of teenage humanity.
4. Girls. On a serious note, the coeducational dynamic would echo a far cry from the torment we suffer now. It's empirical: at coeducational schools (aka American

schools), boys like girls. Both groups also perform better at academics than do populations for male-only and female-only schools. Simple proof that the female element balances the masculine element. I therefore posit that if boys and girls state studied and worked together, we'd do a lot more learning and a lot less lusting.

5. The above is a God-ordained truth. In all religions.

6. To obtain a girl's phone number is the greatest wisdom and the best panacea for the anguish of boys state.

7. Get a girl's phone number while she still exists.

8. To introspect is to gaze across the street, see the sole person of your desire, and realize that she probably doesn't even know you exist.

9. A most artful relationship is built not over the course of a week but over the passage of four hours, on a bus to boys state.

10. To become a man is to stop whining and crying about the 9 above lost causes.

11. If 10 is true, then I have a really long way to go before I become a man of admirable character.

12. To know God is to be a man. To attempt to know God is to wail in futility.

13. In layman's terms, it's time for us to return to our lives. I've had a great time here – from the notoriety, to the fame, to my exploits within the criminal justice system, but now, it's time for me to crawl back to a shell that I call humility and write my emotions out of my heart. Call it challenge, thrill, or trauma, the realization of my

humanity, its strengths, and its weaknesses will amount to a week that will last a lifetime.

14. Congratulations and thank you – to all of you who have worked tirelessly to orchestrate Boys state. For those of you who have vested in our personal growth, know that many of us will remember the positive impact that all of you have impressed upon us. Thank you all, for everything.
