



STUDY GUIDE

I LEARNED MORE AT MCDONALD'S THAN AT COLLEGE

KEY TERMS:

personal slight
safe space

feelings
matured

trigger warning
privilege

NOTE-TAKING COLUMN: Complete this section during the video. Include definitions and key terms.

What was Ms. Legaspi told during her college freshman orientation?

Whose feelings mattered more at the McDonald's job, from the management's point of view?

What would have happened if Ms. Legaspi had complained to her McDonald's manager about being anxious or nervous due to work conditions?

CUE COLUMN: Complete this section after the video.

What are the opposing mindsets of the current university culture verses the reality of an actual job at McDonald's?

In what ways has working at McDonald's better prepared Ms. Legaspi for the 'real world' than attending university has done?

DISCUSSION & REVIEW QUESTIONS:

- After describing the conditions set forth at her college orientation, Ms. Legaspi sums up the school's stance by stating, "In short, the school was ready to protect me from any personal slights or hurt feelings I might suffer." Considering that college is supposed to be another step in helping young adults prepare for full adulthood, why do you think that the school takes such an overly protective position? Do you think that this type of environment is worse for students than was the case for students in years prior to universities adopting such a stance? Why or why not?
- Later in the video, when describing an aspect of working at McDonald's, Ms. Legaspi explains that, "Even if I believed the customer had misunderstood some aspect of their order and was actually the one at fault, I was instructed to give the person the benefit of the doubt. Their feelings mattered more than mine." Do you agree with the attitude that McDonald's has in terms of the customer's feelings mattering more than the employee's feelings? Why or why not? Why do you think that McDonald's takes this approach?
- In comparing her experiences at McDonald's versus her experience at school, Ms. Legaspi points out that, "At McDonald's there was no "trigger warning" for when a customer was about to start yelling, no safe spaces to go to when the restaurant would get so busy that I barely had time to breathe between orders. When a group of men in the drive-thru would whistle and catcall me as they pulled away, there was no university administrator for me to run to for soothing and reassurance." What conclusions could you draw from the comparison Ms. Legaspi makes between her work environment and her school environment? Do you think that such politically correct attitudes prevailing at universities have a place in the 'real world'? Why or why not?
- Later in the video, Ms. Legaspi concludes that, "...from these experiences – the good, the bad, and the flat out ugly, I grew. Or, to use a word one doesn't see much anymore, I matured... In short, I had a job to do and people counted on me to do it." How do you think that the maturation process Ms. Legaspi experienced at McDonald's is different from how she progressed in this aspect of her life in college? How much do you think that not having a 'safe space' and having to deal with unpleasant and difficult situations helped Ms. Legaspi do her job well? What other factors do you think might have contributed to her being able to cope successfully with a stressful and demanding job situation?
- Ms. Legaspi states at the conclusion of the video that, "...I'm grateful to have worked at McDonald's. It taught me how to better handle my anxiety; how to work with others in pursuit of a common goal. It strengthened my character, my work ethic, and my sense of my own resilience. These are lessons that cannot be learned in the "safe spaces" of the Haverford campus. Here's one more thing I learned: putting oneself first is the essence of privilege. But putting oneself first does not develop character or lead to personal growth. Putting others first does. McDonald's is a far better teacher of that lesson than college." Do you agree with Ms. Legaspi's conclusions? Why or why not? Where do you think that college students who do not or have not ever held a job are supposed to learn these lessons, if not at college nowadays?

EXTEND THE LEARNING:

CASE STUDY: Oklahoma Wesleyan University

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the article “University president blasts students for being too sensitive: ‘This is not daycare!’,” then answer the questions that follow.

- How did Dr. Piper characterize kids on college campuses? What was President Obama’s criticism of colleges?
- What points does the Dr. Piper make that support Ms. Legaspi’s points? Why do you think that Dr. Piper felt compelled to publish such a missive? Do you think that Dr. Piper’s campus being the opposite of a campus full of students that are “... enabled rather than confronted...” is better for the students that attend Oklahoma Wesleyan? Why or why not?
- Do you think that students expressing that they so easily feel offended is a reflection of selfishness? Why or why not? What about a reflection of narcissism? Do you think that students who are enculturated to feel so entitled (and politically correct) are victims of that enculturation? Why or why not?



QUIZ

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1. Putting others first is the essence of privilege
 - a. True
 - b. False

2. How was Ms. Legaspi affected by attending Haverford College?
 - a. Her character was strengthened.
 - b. Her work ethic was strengthened.
 - c. Her sense of resilience was strengthened.
 - d. None of the above.

3. Where was Ms. Legaspi taught to place her own well being above all other concerns?
 - a. Church
 - b. Home
 - c. McDonald's
 - d. Haverford College

4. The job of everyone working at McDonald's is to make _____ happy.
 - a. Employees
 - b. Everyone
 - c. The customer
 - d. Upper management

5. Which of the following develops character and leads to personal growth?
 - a. Putting others first.
 - b. Putting oneself first.
 - c. Attending college.
 - d. Buying McDonald's stock.



QUIZ - ANSWER KEY

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<http://www.today.com/parents/university-president-blasts-students-being-too-sensitive-not-daycare-t58811>

University president blasts students for being too sensitive: 'This is not daycare!'

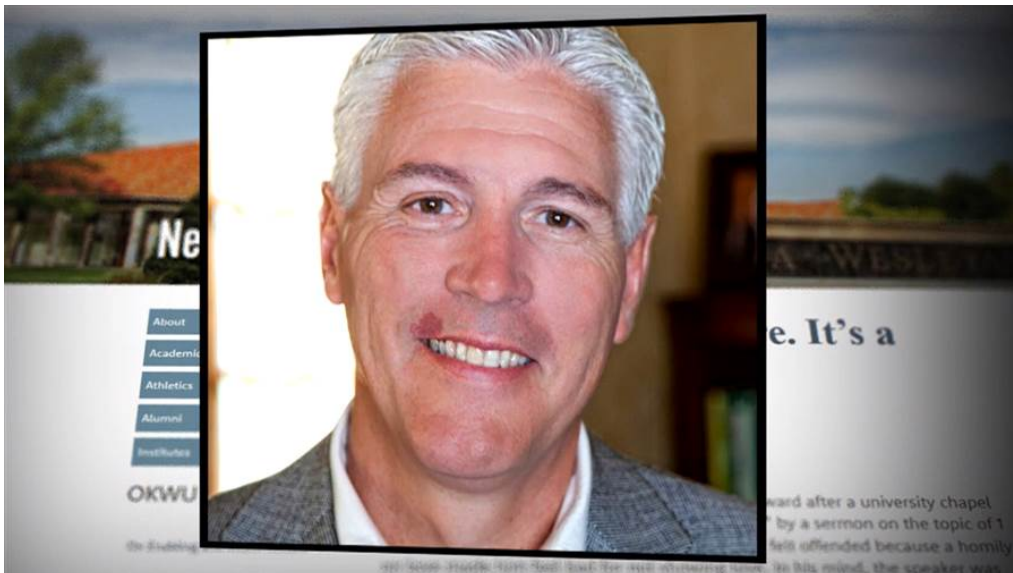


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Scott Stump
TODAY

The president of an Oklahoma university has taken aim at the rising political correctness on campuses across the country with a sharply-worded blog post calling kids "self-absorbed" and "narcissistic."

Dr. Everett Piper, the president of Oklahoma Wesleyan University, struck a nerve with [his open letter](#), titled "This is Not a Daycare! It's a University," in which he hit out at students for playing the "victim" every time "their feelings are hurt."

Piper's post comes in the wake of complaints about "culturally offensive" [Halloween costumes](#) at Yale University and the University of Missouri [president resigning](#) last month after student protests about racism on campus.



"What we really have today is a demand that you must be one of us, you must comply, you must submit, you must believe like we believe, and you must think like we think, and if you don't, we

will suppress you and we will silence you and we will crush you," Piper told Kerry Sanders on TODAY Tuesday.

In his blog post, Piper describes a student complaining to him that he felt "victimized" by a sermon involving a specific Bible verse because it made him feel bad for not showing love.

"Our culture has actually taught our kids to be this self-absorbed and narcissistic," Piper wrote.

"Any time their feelings are hurt, they are the victims. Anyone who dares challenge them and, thus, makes them 'feel bad' about themselves, is a 'hater,' a 'bigot,' an 'oppressor,' and a 'victimizer.'"

Piper also took a shot at the University of Missouri for its campus climate.

"If you're more interested in playing the 'hater' card than you are in confessing your own hate; if you want to arrogantly lecture, rather than humbly learn; if you don't want to feel guilt in your soul when you are guilty of sin; if you want to be enabled rather than confronted, there are many universities across the land (in Missouri and elsewhere) that will give you exactly what you want, but Oklahoma Wesleyan isn't one of them," he wrote.

Piper isn't alone in his complaints about kids these days.

Top comics like Chris Rock, Jerry Seinfeld and Bill Maher have said they will no longer do shows on college campuses because of the politically correct environments.

President Obama has also criticized colleges, saying students should not be "coddled" or protected from "different points of view."

Piper made it clear that his university is not looking to shield students from topics they may not agree with.

"Oklahoma Wesleyan is not a 'safe place,' but rather, a place to learn: to learn that life isn't about you, but about others; that the bad feeling you have while listening to a sermon is called guilt; that the way to address it is to repent of everything that's wrong with you rather than blame others for everything that's wrong with them," he wrote.

"This is a place where you will quickly learn that you need to grow up. This is not a day care. This is a university!"