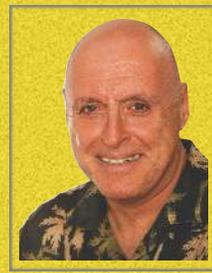


THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



590 The Idea Buffet # 2

I've got a lot of thoughts banging around in my head right now and I'm not sure which, if any, will work in a full episode. I'm Jerry Roberts and today, we'll toss out a bunch of them and call them The Extra Point.

Random thoughts, here we go.

1. In the last couple of weeks I've suggested reimagining our organizations, including all of GovGuam and we spoke in specific terms of the Guam Police.

Yesterday, on the heels of the Black Lives Matters protests which turned into riots, officials in Minneapolis-St. Paul have voted to change how they provide policing to their community. The Minneapolis city council termed it "dismantling" their police force.

2. Some people are horrified that it looks like rioters got what they wanted, and could repeat the process. Well, many police operations have needed to change for a long time.

It's a shame it took the killing of George Floyd plus millions in property damage, which included the destruction of minority-owned businesses, to force the issue. I'm for the idea of reimagining and now it's happening. Let's see it play out.

3. Since it seems like it's now okay to form large groups in the name of protests and this doesn't involve social distancing, can we put weddings, funerals, and special events back on the acceptable list? How about if we call the weddings, protesting single life? Would that work?

4. What is happening at the post office? They are slammed, wall-to-wall customers, from the time they open in the morning until they close in the afternoon. A shoutout to all of the postal workers. You are all doing an amazing job.

5. Back to the Minneapolis situation, where are the voices of the private sector? Many large organizations stated their support for the BLM movement. That's fine. But now they need to have their voice heard loud and clear on how they feel policing should be done. Businesses have a huge stake in policing issues and they need to play a big role in deciding how plans develop.

6. Businesses in Guam need to play a larger role in pushing for change in government. It's not enough to join a group like the Chamber of Commerce, Guam Contractors' Association, GHRA and others, and then task the leaders with sending the message to politicians. Even if it represents 300 members, it's still only one phone call or one letter. What if each member sent their own letter or made their own call?

Do you think it might get someone's attention if they got 300 calls or letters, telling them what you want? What if...what if you asked your workers to make calls and send letters, and it resulted in thousands being received. That is people power — private sector people power.

7. My son had his first date this past weekend. He and a young lady went to a restaurant, then walked in Tumon and had a good time. I was the chauffeur. I'll tell you, it's the coolest thing in the world when your 15 year-old asks dad questions about dating and girls. And just as soon as someone tells me how to figure women out, I'll give him the answers.

That's The Extra Point. Be responsible and make something good happen today. For 93.3 and the Ray Gibson Show, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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