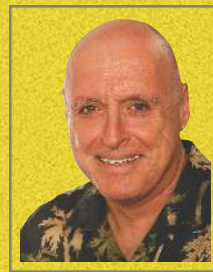


THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



745 These Words Are No Longer Allowable – Part 2

More words today that have been banned and are not to be used. I'm Jerry Roberts and that's next, on The Extra Point.

Lake Superior State University, in Minnesota, releases an annual list of words and phrases they have banished from everyday use, usually because of misuse, overuse, or just general lameness. This annual practice began in 1975 as a joke, and it is now in its fifth decade.

On Friday we discussed the words and phrases from the years 2018 and 2019 that we should never use again. Today, we catch up with years 2020 and the new list from 2021. Here we go.

1. *Quid pro quo*. If you've never used it, the word means you give or do something for me, in return for what I've given or done for you. I think they got rid of it because of how often it's used in politics.

2. *Influencer*. Where do we see this play out? Mostly in social media. People you've never seen before have 10 million Instagram or TikTok followers. You look at a couple of their posts, and you can't figure out why they've got 10 million, but that's for another Extra Point. Mostly, "influencer" is used by folks who seek to add value to themselves. In reality, everybody is an influencer. You have influence with others, at home and at work. Don't misuse that influence, and don't use that word anymore.

3. Oh boy, this one will raise the blood pressure of a few. *Literally*. So many people use this word to emphasize the truth and accuracy of something they say or write. "I remember the first day Ray Gibson went on the air. Thousands of listeners were literally in tears and begging for more." Tomorrow's Extra Point, the fine art of "kissing up."

4. Next is *I mean*. "I mean, you are the best

cook." "I mean, you just wouldn't believe it." "I mean, it was so awesome!" Hey I mean, it's time to go.

5. The next one could very well cause an insurrection in the studio. We shall be bidding farewell to *Vibe*. "Oh Jer, say it ain't so." Vibe is cool. Vibe is real. Vibe is boss. Vibe is history.

6. Okay, the last one from 2020, and I take this one personally. This was how millennials threw shade upon the older generation, many of whom were throwing shade on them. It's totally snarky, and needs to be totally gone.

On to 2021, the current list of words we need to ditch. Lake Superior State University said:

7. *COVID-19, COVID, coronavirus, Rona*. Unfortunately, this one's not going away for a while, regardless of what anyone says.

8. Then, *Social distancing*. A lot of folks would like to put some distance between "social distancing" and us.

9. Next up, *We're all in this together*. Most people don't feel like we've all been in this as together as elected officials have tried to tell us we are. Look, I don't make this stuff up. That's what the research says.

10. Here's a phrase a lot of people use, but incorrectly. *In an abundance of caution*. Abundance means plentiful, or over-sufficient, which in this case is claiming the use of more caution than is needed. Is that the message people want to get out about COVID?

11. The next phrase is used by politicians a lot. *In these uncertain times*. When has there not been uncertain times?

(Con't.)

12. I'm happy to see this go, *I know, right?* I don't know if someone is trying to get approval, agreement, or what? Still, it's up to be done away with and "It's about time," you say? I know, right?

13. Now, the final word from the 2021 dump list. It hasn't been with us long but people are already ready to cut it loose. Drumroll Joe, if you please...we all must stop using *Karen*.

One of the people who nominated this word to be discontinued said of said her reasons for wanting to banish it, "I would tell you why, but I'd sound like a Karen."

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.

###

For information on training and consulting services with Jerry Roberts, please click this link: guamtraining.com

