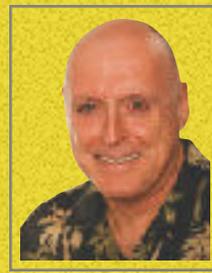


THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



921 Wait, We Can't Use These Words Anymore?

Every year, we look at words that people say should be eliminated from use in the workplace, schools, the home, and everywhere else. I'm Jerry Roberts, and we'll tell you what folks are saying we need to get rid of now, next, on The Extra Point.

Today, we once again dig into a list of words and terms that scholars, Internet authorities, and the word police say we should no longer use.

1. "Mainstream Media" — The public communication cartel headed by The New York Times, The Washington Post, CNN, CBS, and MSNBC — and a whole bunch more — does not represent mainstream Americans. Instead, use "Big Media," or "corporate media."

2. "This" — When people post on social media, using only the one word... "this." Sometimes, there are arrows pointing upward. Uhh, what about this?

3. "It is what it is" — This phrase went away about five years ago, but it seems nobody has noticed. Now, it seems reserved for most people in the grandparent category. Sad, right? Well, it is what it is.

4. "New Normal" — There's nothing normal about it, and it's not new, either. People in power have been pulling tricks for years.

5. "Synergy" — Sounds vaguely futuristic, and is meant to indicate people or things working together. Ray, Real Joe, and Mana have a sort of synergy together.

6. "Circle Back" — The phrase uttered constantly by Joe Biden's press secretary and mouthpiece, Jenn Tsaki. Be honest, have you ever used this phrase?

7. "Think outside the box" — An oldie but a goodie, even if people want to see it gone.

Outside the box, inside the box, the key idea is to just think.

8. "Low-Hanging Fruit" — Say it ain't so. I am bummed. I use this all the time. Low-hanging fruit means something that can be implemented with ease and speed.

9. "Zoom" — This is not a noun as in the name of a company, the word zoom is now used as a verb to describe any video conferencing service.

10. "Deep Dive" — It's about exploring details, and going more in-depth into a topic. However, not all dives are created equal in how deep they go. Sometimes, people use the term to try to impress people, while delivering not much more than what is normal.

11. "In these unprecedented times" — Politicians like to use words like these, just before they issue some executive order. They must think that by using those four words, somehow we're all going to go, "Oh yeah, this is justified because it's all so unprecedented."

12. Thesaurus.com says to get rid of "Dumb," "Psycho," and "Lame." Wait a second, that's not fair. How are we going to talk about politics if we lose those words?

13. Another one the site hates is "OCD". We can't get rid of that one. By using OCD as an excuse, it serves to explain any kind of behavior we want to be excused from. "Oh, sorry I stole your car. It just seemed to be parked in the wrong place, and my OCD kicked in." It sort of explains the presidential election. It was illegal activity on the part of the Democrats. It was all those extra mail-in ballots that were all over the place. "I didn't mean to vote 3,500 times, but there were all these ballots everywhere. I just had to keep voting, and voting, and voting." (Con't.)

Every year, Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, releases a list of words they've determined should be banned.

This is done in a promotion with thousands of people voting on words they'd like to see done away with. The 2021 list is as follows:

- COVID-19
- Social distancing
- We're all in this together
- In an abundance of caution
- In these unprecedented times (or uncertain times)
- Pivot
- Karen
- Sus (short for suspicious)
- I know, right?

There you have it. If you currently use any of these terms, please refrain from future use to avoid undue embarrassment to yourself and your family.

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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