

Daniel Gwynn Blog Update

12/1/12

"Being Human"

Every morning I wake up to the same old, & young, faces. Some of these faces are so disarming, because of the wear-and-tear of prison life. What I was seeing in their faces was the transformation many prisoners go through (good & bad) after being on lockdown and deprived of human contact for so many years, including myself. The lack of human contact can be so debilitating after being locked down 24/7 for 5, 10, especially 20 years. It's not just the absence of sex, it's also the kind, gentle touch of someone who cares; the compassionate hug telling you that everything is going to be alright; or just simply someone holding your hand through the storms.

A nurse came to take my blood pressure the other day, and her touch jarred me out of my institutionalized stupor. When she grabbed my arm, it wasn't devoid of humanity, and I didn't know how to react--should I be angry, go masturbate, or cry. Instead, I recoiled, trying to pull my arm away, but she reassured me that she meant no harm. Her administration of the test, albeit very professional, was caring--from one human being to another. I cried for a couple of days afterwards, for I forgot how it felt to be treated like a human being.

I live my life with Jesus Christ in my heart. He's my mentor & example-- I live in Love. It's just that simple. You don't have to believe in Jesus Christ as I do, or any religion, etc. Just live to Love your fellow man as you would wish to be loved; Love life & live it to the fullest, for it can enrich your life; and Love the world (environment/community) you live in, so your contributions can enrich & benefit others & even the world.

I don't expect anyone to return the Love in kind, because that's not what living in Love is about. I live in Love, because it makes me happy & spiritually uplifted. I'm not too concerned about the way someone treats me, only to how they treat the world we live in. The environment we live in is important to our health-- mentally, physically & spiritually. What we have on the Row is civility and not as much violence as you'd imagine-- mainly because we're locked down 24/7.

