

Date: 28 Dec 25

Subject: ...

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Hello Iconoclassy,

Well, first off please allow me to thank you for leaving the message. Many times I find myself wondering if anybody is even reading these things.

Second, I would like to thank you for reminding me of the importance of choosing the correct word to get my proper point across. I must admit, when I looked up the definition for the word messy (disorderly and dirty), I found that it was truly not the correct word to use in describing a few. . . UNSANITARY (there, that's a little better) cellmates I've crossed paths with. Let me share a couple of examples:

When you have a cellmate, or even a nearby bunk in an open-bay dorm, and they have the habit of leaving their unwashed bowl on the floor next to their locker over night, that is an automatic attraction to RATS in the wee hours of the morning. Also, leaving a used bag of potato chips, with the crumbs still in it -- that's another major attraction. Now I realize that if I wasn't such a light sleeper, I wouldn't be hearing these things crawling around in the middle of the night less than 10 feet away from me. But unfortunately, hearing and seeing these things munching away. . . I mean, I KNOW they have no interest in gnawing away at me, but I'm sure we've all seen enough movies to cause such a sight to make the idea of just falling back asleep a little difficult.

Another good example I should have included for you readers is the one of when a person's idea of maintaining satisfactory hygiene is to be sure that he showers once a day. Sounds about right, doesn't it? I mean, that's all I take. However, there is a tremendous difference between taking one at 8:30 A.M. and 8:30 P.M. I had a bunk at another camp some years back who would get right up in the morning and take a shower. However, even after the long, hot, Florida day -- that would also include going out to rec yard -- he did not find it necessary to take another shower. Instead, he found it suitable to continue on through the evening, and get into bed at night with the intention to take his shower the next morning. Please remember Iconoclassy, I was in a concrete two man cell with this guy that is approximately 7 1/2 feet by 10 1/2 feet, and we had a thick metal door on the front -- not open bars. So I stayed out of the cell pretty much most of the time. But when bed time and count times came, I really had no choice. And even when he wasn't there, his sheets on his bed would still keep the stench in the air. So at any rate, these kinds of situations will cause you to lay awake at night, with the thoughts of what you're willing to do to take care of the matter.

In closing, let me just say that the reason for me sharing this with you was not for the purpose to try and convince you that I have NO pet peeves. I'll admit, I've always had those things annoying me all throughout the day and night -- both here in prison and the free world.

Thanks again for writing, and don't hesitate to keep in touch, regardless of the subject.

MAZE