

What's there to fight about?

There are many things that I don't understand. I do actually admit that sometimes, and one of those things is fighting. I don't mean bickering or arguing, yelling and screaming or whatever. I mean actual swinging of fists, pushing, pulling hair, gouging eyes, etc. I simply don't get it. I mean, really, what's the point? I have seen all kinds of different situations in which fights have broken out or were on the verge of doing so, and I never really can ever recall any that I would consider justifiable.

To illustrate what I mean by justifiable is this... If someone rapes your daughter, sister, grandma or mother. I personally feel that the perpetrator is in need of a serious beating. If someone sells drugs to your children or purposely runs over your pet, that person could likely use a beating as well. If someone kills anyone, well a beating is probably too good for them...but my point is that although I for the most part don't advocate violence, I am human and I could make an exception here or there.

But then we have all the other times when people think they need to start swinging and I just find it so ridiculous. Let's start off with the classic, "Are you lookin' at me?!?!?!" Ah, yes, this statement has been known to el-

evate brilliant bar flys and ne'er do wells into a fit of rage faster than you can say "boo." And for what? For looking at someone? For looking at someone "funny?" I don't care if someone is sitting across the room sticking their tongue out at you or even giving you the middle finger salute—grow up and learn to ignore them rather than flying off the handle.

Another classic is the jealous guy fight. This one starts when for whatever reason a guy is talking to jealous guy's "woman." (Sounds a bit caveman, doesn't it?) What is the point of this? If talking is going to turn into something that maybe you should beat the guy up for, why even bother? She's going to do it to ya anyway, and you can't make sure every hour of every day that no guy talks to her, EVER!

A fairly common fight that takes place is when there are two sides to a point of view and only one or neither of those sides are able to articulate their view using words rather than fists. I know you might find this hard to believe, but I have been on the defensive end of a couple of these. (Keep in mind, I don't, didn't and won't fight). Anyway, I find this one pretty amusing because there is no amount of beating that I could receive that would make me change

my views. Although an intelligent debate, on the other hand, might actually cause me to rethink my convictions.

You don't see me going around trying to clobber anyone into agreeing with me. You either do or you don't, and if you'd like to discuss that like two adults, that's just fine with me, but pushing, shoving and punching do little more than leave me questioning your literacy level.

The next instance of fighting that I find truly moronic is the, "I am p.o.ed and I have no clue why" fight. This fight is typically characterized by profuse drinking by one, both, or all parties involved. This fight is generally one in which you men engage, and I think it has to do with some kind of chemical reaction that takes place between 12 Jack Cokes (or whatever the inebriant) and elevated testosterone levels. Anyway, at least one of the parties in this situation is smashed out of his gourd and decides that he is going to

"kick your *&^!" The drunk guy doesn't know why he's going to, maybe it's because you looked at him funny,

talked to his woman and said something that he disagreed with—who knows, but he's going to go be Mr. Big Tough Guy fighting machine despite the fact that walking and talking and just generally retaining consciousness are a pretty big challenge for him. This can often be the

most entertaining of all fight because to quote Karen Walker from NBC's *Will & Grace*, "It's funny 'cause it's sad."

There are several other instances of fighting that are truly brainless but my point is this... You can beat someone into thinking that you're tough, but you cannot beat someone into thinking that you're smart. And in the end, it's the smart guys that are the ones that you really need to watch out for. I don't think Bill Gates got to where he's at by beating people up, do you?



Rachel Rants

Rachel Kieltly