

The Grumpy Disciple #6

Survey Finds Americans Insincere with Post Sneeze “God Bless you!”

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One more piece of America’s decaying state of decency has eroded woefully far. The Ear, Nose and Throat Foundation of America (EN & TFA) recently conducted a comprehensive survey on the tender subject of Post Nasal Discharge Salutation or PNDS. This is the social behavior of feeling obligated to verbally express sorrow and sympathy when a person has a nasal discharge, commonly known as a sneeze.

The survey revealed that the next “God bless you!” a person hears, right on the heels of someone’s unfortunate and innocent nasal discharge, will be coming from insincere lips. Besides this, it will have arrived mindlessly from an otherwise “normal, cognizant, functioning person.” The report summarizes “it has become cliché to say the common and expected GBY. Also, is “done mainly to clear the air of any doubt that the hearer of the sneeze is NOT indifferent to the sneezer’s brief discomfort.” Such feigned politeness has spread like an unchecked gray plague over our country.

The E,N & T Foundation survey findings reveal that the GBYs “directive for the Supreme Being to comfort the one suffering is only a faint or non-existent hope and so, no one *really* expects some divine intervention to happen.” But, it is believed to have happened twice in recent history, and the Vatican is said to be looking into these.

Even in the depths of our darkest prisons, irreligious and sinful reprobates will parrot the GBY phrase when a fellow inmate sneezes. On the other hand, during a sermon if a pastor sneezes, you will hear an unrehearsed chorus of “GOD BLESS YOU!” by the entire congregation all at once.

The reflex remark is so ingrained in all of us that to not say “it” implies that you are indeed an insensitive brute, and if a female, a brutess! This deeply rooted salutation is ingrained into us at birth, proven in counseling sessions of Regressive Post Natal Therapy or RPNT. This is a technique where a person is professionally guided to relive their birth experience. This revisiting is done in hopes to sort out current difficulties in adult life. In myriads of counseling offices, vivid memories of maternity ward abandonment and rejection are located and rekindled. Yes, accidentally dropped on one’s head is identified.

For example, attention—ever so brief—having been taken off the newly arrived infant (counselee) and transferred to a medical attendant or parent, sneezing in the delivery room. A “God bless you!” by everyone present (except the newborn) occurs. And so, the spotlight shifted even for mere moments with unforeseen damaging consequences—one sneeze can be one too many. Infants do remember!

Americans say the GBY to almost anyone, anywhere and anytime automatically. The survey found that, "We will say the GBY and not mean much of anything by it." Some interviewed, confided that they volunteer a sloshy, low-volumed, "Gahhd blessh yah!" as kind of a dodge. This allows for an implied religious lifestyle...but they're not genuine...they feign a spirituality which mimics compassion—just to look good!"

Agnostics and atheists simply leave religion entirely out of the Post Nasal Discharge Salutation and mouth, "Bless you! or "Do you need a tissue?"

In conclusion, the majority of those who took the Ear, Nose and Throat Foundation survey said that they would, #1 Prefer: A world where no one sneezed. #2 Prefer: That if #1 is never to happen, when sneezing occurs, no one would say anything. #3 Prefer: we'd all look down intently at our shoes or far off in the distance.

Surely, this decaying state of decency will alarm you the next time you sneeze. You might fire back with a confident, "Hush up! You don't mean that at all and I know it!"

Another story from REAL LIFE (that I made up!) This parody news story is for amusement. Any similarity to real people, places or fruit is fictitious and not to be taken as fact.