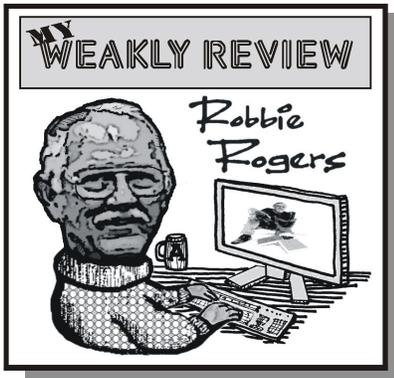


Weakly Review Column (700 Words) Rights Reserved Title: **Kinder Gentler Government?**

Part One



George Bush said it would happen.... I didn't believe it then, an I ain't seen it yet... a kinder gentler government that is. An, Billery and Hillary kinda stuff missed the mark when they slipped slided away. So when "W" took office, I didn't believe him either, did you?

Well... me I'm kinda gullible I thought maybe something would change. It's got to get better, right. I mean the pot's getting too warm if we and them frogs don't get some relief they're gonna cook the goose that laid the egg, right???

This being nearly the Ides of April Fool sort of brings it all to a head. Somebody up there, in Washington that is, has a sense of humor after all.

Have you ever read the friendly greeting in the front of the best seller, the 2005 1040 Form and Instructions Booklet? The Commissioner can do and say what he or she wants I suppose. Wonder what part of Arkansas he/she's from?

Right off the bat, looking at the IRS 1040 destructions, you kinda wonder. They can't

even print my name right-side up, it's upside down on the label, at least to the person reading it. Maybe that's what's wrong, they stand on their head at the IRS. Everybody looks like a crook when you're upside down. From there on it goes downhill.

Did you read the 1040 Booklet salutations? Kinda makes you want to dance a jig and barf at the same time. "As Commissioner... I am personally committed toward developing a simple and more easily administrable tax system." Ha! When you look at the Estimated Preparation Time schedule you know what a joke her "simple" system is. From front to back, including record keeping and such, using their estimates, I needed over 40 hours to complete and wade through the "simple system." Shazaam! What will it be like when they're through simplifying it?

Speaking of what's mine and what's the IRS', somebody once wrote a book about how pertinent things in Kindergarten were for real life. The following was taken off the wall, literally, maybe from the IRS' kindergarten. They have one you know, and it's free for their workers... huh!

TODDLER PROPERTY LAWS:

1. IF I LIKE IT, *IT'S MINE.*
2. IF IT'S IN MY HAND, *IT'S MINE.*
3. IF I CAN TAKE IT FROM YOU, *IT'S MINE.*
4. IF I HAD IT A LITTLE

WHILE AGO, IT'S MINE.

5. IF IT'S MINE, *IT IS NEVER YOUR'S IN ANY WAY.*

6. IF I'M DOING OR BUILDING SOMETHING, *ALL THE PIECES ARE MINE.*

7. IF IT LOOKS JUST LIKE MINE, *IT'S MINE!*

Anyhow, I called the Jacksonville office. I needed an answer quick, cause I's gonna be late if'n I didn't find out what to do.. to jive or shuck, that was the question.

I was surprised.. I got a human on the first try. She might'a been a cleaning lady or somthin'. Scared her as much as it did me, both'us talking to humans at the same time, I mean that's spooky. Wow! Suddenly I thought, those guys might be on the ball after all. Pardon the sexist remark.

The person asked me what it was I wanted, then proceeded to transfer my call to the sales division or something. What kinda language did she think I spoke? Then it dawned on me that was IRS talk, you know like down at the diner when they yell pigs-in-a-blanket when you order something exotic. Anyway I was disconnected, I think, at least I gave up after the elevator music stopped and I endured 15 minutes of silence. I used the extra time to pray, maybe that's why they didn't come back, I was messing with their constitutional rights or something.

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Me I'm still hoping for an extension on my extension. I had a friend who didn't turn in a 1040 for ten years, he was scared to since he'd gotten by with it for so long. He lucked out though, they gave him amnesty, like he was an alien or something.

Then there are those people who send in the blank 1040 with nothing but their signature. They say it's unconstitutional, the income tax that is. Some of them have gotten away with it, at least for now. Bet they'll get it in the end, and I do mean in the end.

So what's next?