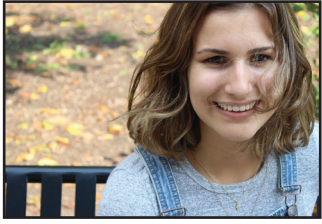


Turning punctuality into actuality is not so easy



by Carly Travis

Freshman year I was chronically late to advisory. The bell would ring at 7:55 A.M., but I would get to class no earlier than 7:58 A.M. Was it my fault entirely? My locker was at least a mile away and it was conveniently close to my friend's locker as well (I'm notoriously chatty).

So yes, it was. Being late is something we can put an end to. Yes, showing up to a party "fashionably late" is still acceptable. An important meeting or job interview on the other hand, is just rude.

Arriving ten minutes late has its repercussions. For one thing, you'll inevitably receive judgmental looks. They're not checking out your outfit, which probably caused you to be late in the first place.

Your parents, boss, and teachers are giving you this stare that says, "Who do you think you are wasting

my time?" These people waiting on you don't even notice that you're out of breath and sweating. All sympathy is lost.

Consequence number two: you have created a somewhat negative reputation for yourself. Now, people can't rely on you or trust you to 'be there.' If you think your best friend has you listed under "emergency contact," you're wrong.

The question still remains: why are people late? In a Huffington Post article, Diana DeLonzor, author of "Never Be Late Again," wrote about chronic tardiness being heavily related to psychological components.

Typically, someone who is repeatedly late may be prone to anxiety, have low self-control, or have a tendency towards thrill-seeking.

"One of the things I found is that some people were subconsciously drawn to the adrenaline rush of that last minute sprint to the finish line," DeLonzor said.

Is the reason we're constantly late because we need to feel motivated by pressure in order to achieve a goal?

I find that this is relevant when tasked with homework: I complete my assignments at a speedier pace

when I know I only have 45 minutes.

Some people argue that this way of working is less accurate, that is, I would be more likely to get the wrong answer.

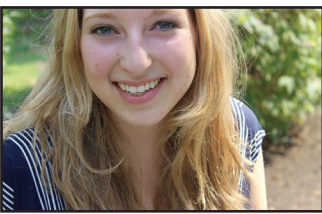
However, when I set a timer, I know that I won't be late for my next activity; sometimes promptness is a higher priority.

Another reason may be that people poorly plan activities. If you find yourself arriving late to the next coffee date, for example, try timing yourself to see how long it takes to move from point A to B. If you stop the timer at 32 minutes, allot yourself 35 minutes next time.

In theory, scheduling is meant to help organize you, but it may be the reason you're constantly making people wait. Over-scheduling is, in fact, another layer of the chronically late person. DeLonzor further explained how "the producer" is someone who will try to accomplish a handful of engagements all within a short period of time.

Clearly, people have their reasons for being late. Common excuses may be traffic, the weather, or those providing the ride to and from. But the underlying reasons are much more complex.

Don't go blocking my sites



by Camille Baer

Blocking social media is like blocking life. You can't avoid it, and the harder you try, the more obvious its existence is.

In the past when Snapchat, Instagram, and Facebook were not blocked, I didn't feel as much of an urgency to use them, because I knew they'd always be there.

In the past few weeks, sadly, these apps have been officially blocked off the school's main wifi. RIP.

But now, it's as if using these sources of social media is an act of rebellion.

I'm not addicted to Instagram; I'm not constantly on my phone checking my Facebook feed; I don't Snapchat people every second of the day. What I am, though, is hyper-aware of the outburst around the usage of these apps at school.

When someone tells me I can't have or do something, I'm instantly defensive.

I want to say things like, "I should be allowed to do what I want!"

People are keen to the idea of wanting something they can't have. We all know that cliché, yet annoyingly true saying: absence makes the heart grow fonder.

Relating this idea to the blocking of social media, (perhaps not so extreme), students feel like they have a right to use their means of social media. So, it's understandably frustrating not having the immediate access to these apps we've always had.

What's even more frustrating is the fact that the administration believes what they are doing will positively affect the student body.

Instead, it actually makes many people feel resentment towards the administration.

While it makes sense for these apps to be prohibited during class, it's annoying not being able to use Snapchat during free periods and lunch periods.

In order to continue the use of Facebook, Instagram, and Snapchat, students have had to download certain apps that block their web addresses from the school wifi.

Therefore, the extra measures people have gone through just to achieve access for these apps have cancelled out the efforts made by the administration.

This is actually quite ironic. Blocking the three largest sources used for social media, in theory,

could be a good idea. But what *cough cough* older generations don't realize, is that so much of our time is spent on social media.

I don't like to admit it to myself, but social media does have a strong influence on my own life, but looking at it with a more "un-biased" approach, it really does.

No matter the technological obstacle, teenagers will find a way over, under, or around it, if that means protecting their right to peruse Facebook or Instagram's never ending feed.

My biggest problem with having these major apps blocked though, is that sometimes Facebook serves as an academic purpose.

If you need to reach someone and don't have their number, it removes the ability to communicate with your peers in and outside of class.

Being aware that these social media apps are blocked creates a fear of missing out on things that are going on during school.

Students who have downloaded a means of protecting their web addresses from the school's wifi have access to these apps, while the students who aren't able to download the address-blocker are left out.

It causes an imbalance in the student body, generating a new kind of social outcast: an outcast of social media, or as we call it, life.

Editorial

Let's commit more than just our wallets to service

Not many students can recite New Trier's motto: "To commit minds to inquiry, hearts to compassion, and lives to the service of humanity." Yet, students follow it every time they put a can in a donation bin or their spare change in the Misericordia boxes that pop up in the spring.

As a high school, New Trier makes a huge impact with the countless fundraisers and community service projects in which it participates every year.

The latest of note was the contribution of the girls cross country team to Bright Pink, a Chicagoland non-profit dedicated to educating girls on breast and ovarian cancer. This year, girls cross country raised close to \$12,000.

Last spring, the boys lacrosse teams at both Loyola and New Trier teamed up with Misericordia and raised an impressive collective sum of \$75,000. Through various methods, including selling candy bars on the street, selling specially designed t-shirts and socks and online campaigns, New Trier boys lacrosse supplied over two thirds of the collective sum.

There's no doubt that New Trier students are willing to give to others, but is shelling out your parent's \$20 for the advisory NUSH project the same as dedicating your time to Boys and Girls club?

This is the problem that we face at New Trier. There is a definite difference between donating money and donating time. We have the potential to make a difference both financially and through service, and sometimes students forget about the service part.

Now this can be due to several reasons. New Trier students are notorious for being busy. But New Trier offers over 25 different social service clubs to students on both the Winnetka and Northfield campuses. These clubs usually occur once every week and are easy to join.

These clubs are full of students who make a difference and build close relationships with the organizations they serve. That's what matters. Forming relationships is far better than just giving money or donations where you can't actually see the difference it makes.

It's undisputed that the New Trier area is more affluent than other neighboring communities, and students do make a difference. But New Trier also has a superiority complex that no one really talks about. It's the idea that we're somehow better than the surrounding communities, so we need to swoop in and help them. While our hearts may be in the right place, material donations are different than donating time to the cause.

In the end, dedication is what makes a difference, not a monetary amount.

As students at New Trier, we are lucky to live in a relatively affluent community. It's our responsibility to give back to those who are not as fortunate, let's just be mindful of how we do it.



Corrections:

In last week's issue, we wrote that Morgan Conley was a Georgetown commit who helped New Trier to a second place finish at the Trevian Relays. While Conley is committed to Georgetown, she is no longer a member of the Trevian swim team.

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