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momsense

Jerks & Bullies Beware *By A Prospect Mom*

At a grocery store discount gas station, I was beginning to fill up my vehicle with fuel. On the other side of the pump, an older gentleman was just finishing his fueling. As most people do, the gentleman commented how expensive it must be to keep gas in my large SUV. I let him know that it's only because it has such a large tank, it actually gets twenty miles per gallon. I also said, "Wait until you shop for home oil, that will be expensive this year."

While we were making small talk, he was returning the gas lever in the pump and closing his gas cap. When he was finished with these necessary tasks, he stopped at his door before getting in his vehicle and asked me how much was home oil this year, and I returned with the projected prices I had been given by fuel companies. It was at this time that there was an unfriendly beep from a woman driver behind the older man's car. The woman behind the wheel could be heard from inside, although her car was running and the windows were closed. She began shouting, "COME ON!! I'VE GOT TO GO!!" The gentleman was noticeably disturbed by this woman's behavior and quickly went on to finish getting in his already open car door.

The woman looked me square in the eye and shouted a two-word profanity that is definitely unbecoming of a lady. I shook my head as she moved her car up to the gas pump in such a hurry that her car made a jerking motion as it rocked forward and then back and came to a halt. (I bet she doesn't get the twenty-five or so miles to the gallon that the manufacturer reports her car is capable of). The woman jumped out of her car and pro-

ceeded to shout, "GAS IS \$3 A GALLON! MY CAR IS RUNNING and YOU'RE TALKING!" My response to her was a very calm, "Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't know that this was YOUR world and the rest of us are just living in it."

Rude as I may have been, I was hoping my comment gave her something to think about for the rest of the day. She certainly had a nicer tone of voice when she walked up to the attendant's booth and asked him to provide her with the discount gas price because, "I don't have a store card."

Just where do these people come from? They really do think the world revolves around them. Later in the same day, I was on the highway when traffic came to a standstill. I was sitting a mile-and-a-half away from the next exit (where I knew I could take an alternate route to my destination). Of course there were several people who believe that this is their world, and their highway and how dare there be traffic. You know them, the ones who drive up the emergency shoulder lane.

I watched as several motorists around me tried to thwart these jerks by straddling the lane and the shoulder. But because these jerks HAVE to get somewhere they just went around the rest of us law abiding citizens and drove on. After a while, these well-meaning and obedient drivers gave up. And then along came another jerk.

I put my emergency flashers on and pulled into the emergency shoulder and stopped. Well this really upset the jerk trying to get through. He started flaying his arms; I then motioned for him to get back into the traffic lane (he and that woman at the gas station

apparently have a limited two word vocabulary). So what was my response this time? I blew a kiss to him, and the two teenage boys riding in the car with him (nice example he is setting, hey?)

At any rate, the traffic was due to a roll-over and a car fire that the police hadn't gotten to yet (they came up from behind me). I was able to pull into traffic quickly because the driver in the travel lane behind me had left the space open for me. And can you believe it? Mr. Jerk tried to drive up the emergency lane behind the police!!! Again I refused to let him pass and he was stuck in traffic like the rest of us, taking fifteen minutes to travel a half-mile to the next exit. I drove directly to the State Police Barracks with Mr. Jerk's license plate, vehicle make and model and description of the driver. The Connecticut State Trooper thanked me for the assistance in trying to keep the emergency lane clear and stated he would contact the driver later in his shift after the accidents had been cleared.

So watch out jerks and bullies. I'm not taking it anymore!
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St. Anthony Church Ladies Guild

The Ladies Guild of St. Anthony Church will meet next on Tuesday, September 19 at 7 p.m. at the church hall. Guest speaker for the evening will be Janet Moses of Life Line Screening. Janet will explain the importance of the screening program which consists of four different tests, takes little time and is totally painless to have done. Guild members will learn that the rewards of having the screening done are numerous. All women of the parish are encouraged to join the members for this most informative evening. Refreshments will be served.

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