

JOE GALAT SCORING POINTS

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...universities? Qualified students were refused admission in order to make room for the less qualified students. Should these student victims insist on protesting on the campuses that rejected them?

That "freedom of speech" probably will not happen. I am a former Football and Wrestling Coach at an Ivy League school (Yale). It is guaranteed an Ivy League education will give that graduate a huge career advantage. But let's look at attending an IVY League's College as a first life lesson. The first realization for the student who has always been regarded as "SPECIAL": is he or she is only one of thousands across the country who are also SPECIAL.

Lesson 1) A "me first attitude" must be discarded.

In a recent study millennials said, "the most stressful issue they could imagine was losing their cell phone." Sure, stress can be harmful to humans. Most of us stress over health and safety issues. Older Americans who experienced the horror of the second world war or the terrorist attack of 9-11 on the World Trade Center; may regard stressing over a missing cell phone laughable. Our parents tried to teach us to prioritize stressful issues.

Lesson 2) First things first.

I am confused when I witness students violently protesting guest speakers with an opposing view. I believe in freedom of speech. Haven't we prepared our children to keep an open mind? in the stressful world of millennials shouldn't they be taught to contribute to society by striving to achieve worthwhile goals. Every time in our history, when challenged, Americans responded by defending our liberty and human values. What could possibly be bigger than that? Words and labels have become too big. Simple words can now be used to spark violence. Words used as weapons render a debate over; because to label someone implies that person is insignificant. Injustice today uses the most modern weapon; it is not knives, guns, bombs it is propaganda. I call it Word Weapons. A single "Word Weapon" can end an argument leaving the other side no opportunity to respond. Our youth see cheating by adults as normal. It is time to ask ourselves what are we teaching our children. Reading Writing and Arithmetic give way to video, texting and calculators. Campus rioters are called social activists and some Universities give credit hours for participating in these. Protest signs with word labels will get extra credit.

Lesson 3) Think through both sides of an issue without jumping to conclusions.

Here at American Youth Football we promote academics on our Facebook page Academic Achievement Alliance. Our goal is to advance the education of all our participants. There are no limits if a student athlete dedicates the time and effort. I have witnessed fourteen year old football players being offered college scholarship commitments. Get on Social Media and tell your stories of how football helped your child learn the value of teamwork, persistence, and self-worth. Youth football is the largest base of football participation, yet we remain undeserved. We must alert the state legislators who are introducing bills to ban youth football they are ripping apart our social fabric. These ill-advised politicians use "CTE" as their word weapon. We must insist on "scientific facts!" Saving youth football will truly save many lives.